

THE FAMILY OF DANIEL PORTER,  
"the bonesetter"

at  
Farmington, Connecticut  
1650 - 1690

and  
Some Of His Descendants

Thru the line of his son Nehemiah Porter

This material is far from being in a finished form but this brings together all the known information we have at the present time. Hopfully this will help organize what material we now have available, and facilitate further research.

NOTE: I do want to express my personal appreciation, and the appreciation of other Porter Family members to Mrs. David (Helen) Ransom of the Connecticut Historical Society, 1 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105 for without her invaluable help and kindness this material could never have been put together. She has spent so much of her own time on days off helping to gather material, I never even knew existed and she has visited other towns and gotten deeds etc, which I was unable to get by mail. To her we say THANK YOU!

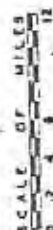
Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin  
R. D. #2, Box 41  
New London, Ohio 44851

January 1981

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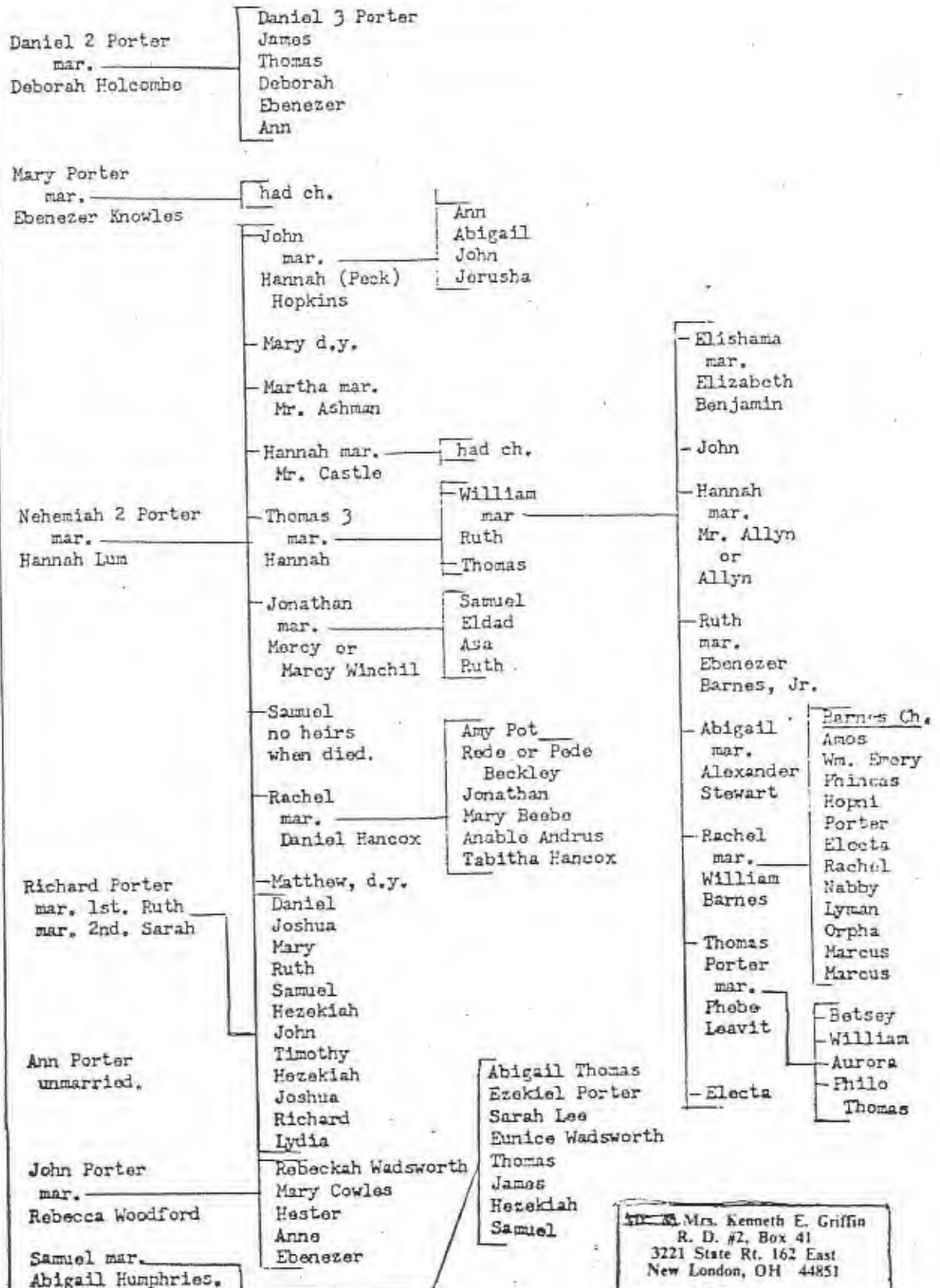
CONNECTICUT





# THE DANIEL PORTER FAMILY

DANIEL 1 PORTER and wife Mary of Farmington, Conn. 1653-1690



DATE June 18, 1981

FAMILY RECORD Mrs. Paula Porter Griffin, Rt. 2, New London, Ohio  
(Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin)

1.

Called Daniel Porter, the Bonesetter in Farmington, Ct.

Daniel 1 Porter, M.D. HUSBAND before 1653 and physician until 1690  
in Farmington, Ct.

Born

Place

Marr.

Place

Died before 9 Apr. 1690

Place Farmington, Ct.

Where buried

HUSBAND'S  
FATHERHUSBAND'S  
MOTHERHUSBAND'S  
OTHER WIVES

Mary

WIFE

Daniel's Gift of Deed in lieu of will dated  
15 Aug. 1688, prob. 9 Apr. 1690 names Mary & 6ch.

Born

Place

Died Alive 15 Aug 1688

Place

Where buried

WIFE'S  
FATHERWIFE'S  
MOTHEROTHER  
HUSBANDS

## CHILDREN

List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth

Original proprietor Born 2 Feb. 1652/3 Place prob. Farmington, Ct.  
of Waterbury, Ct. Marr. TO WHOM Deborah Holcombe

1. Daniel 2, M.D.

Died 18 Jan 1726

Place Waterbury, Ct.

Born 5 Feb 1654/5

Place Farmington, Ct.

Marr.

TO WHOM Eleazar Knowles/Woodbury

2. Mary

Died

1732

Place not named fathers gift of De

Born 24 Oct 1656

Place Farmington, Ct.

Marr.

TO WHOM Hannah Lum/bp. Woodbury

\*\* 3. Nehemiah

Of Kensington  
Parish, Farmington,  
Ct.

Died

1722

Place Kensington Parish

Born 24 Mar 1658

Place Farmington, Ct.

Marr.

TO WHOM 1/Ruth, 2/Sarah

4. Richard, M.D.

Early proprietor  
of Waterbury abt  
1717 to New Haven

Died

1740

Place Will prob. New Haven

Born 1661

Place Farmington, Ct.

Marr.

Single time fathers Gift - think d. unmarried.

5. Anna

Died

abt. 1720

Place

Born 14 Nov. 1662

Place Farmington, Ct.

Marr.

TO WHOM 1/Rebecca Woodford,

6. John

Lived in Farmington  
and died there.

Died

1740

Place 2/Martha Porter

Born 24 Oct 1665

Place Farmington, Ct.

Marr.

TO WHOM Abigail Humphries

7. Samuel, M.D.

Succeeded his father  
as physician in  
Farmington, Ct.

Died

by 13 Apr 1736

Place Farmington, Ct.

Born

Place

Marr.

TO WHOM

8.

Died

Place

Born

Place

Marr.

TO WHOM

9.

Died

Place

Born

Place

Marr.

TO WHOM

10.

Died

Place

Make a separate Family Form for each married child

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Porter Genealogy by Henry E. Burton, Middletown, Conn. 1896

Early Connecticut Probate Records Manwaring, Vol. 1

Julius Gay Manuscript at Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford, Ct.

Use back of sheet for other information. Show residences, occupation, family history,  
Service record etc.

Genealogical Dictionary of New England by Savage Vol. 3

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Mesa, Arizona 85204

40 South LeSueur

SURNAME SEARCH



DATE June 18, 1981

FAMILY RECORD Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin, R.D. #2. New London, Ohio 44851

(nee Paula 10 Porter)

Phone 419 area 929-2142 New London, Ohio

## HUSBAND

Nehemiah 2 Porter

Born 24 Oct. 1656

Place Farmington, Ct.

Marr. 21 Jan. 1687

Place prob. at First Congregational Church of Woodbury, Ct.

Died 1722

Place Kensington Parish, where buried Farmington Twp.,

HUSBAND'S FATHER Daniel 1 Porter, M.D.

HUSBAND'S MOTHER Mary

HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES

## WIFE

Hannah Lum/Lumm

Born

Place

Died 17 May 1710

Place Kensington Parish, where buried

WIFE'S FATHER Poss. John Lumm

WIFE'S MOTHER

OTHER HUSBANDS

## CHILDREN

List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth

1. John 3 Porter

Born 11 Jan 1688 Place prob. Kensington Parish

Marr. 3 Dec 1713 TO WHOM Hannah (Peck) Hopkins

Died by 18 Feb. 1735/6 Place prob. Kensington

Born 16 Sep 1689 Place prob. Kensington Parish

Marr. TO WHOM

2. Mary

Died believe d. young Place Not named fathers will/1722

Born 28 Jan 1693 Place prob Kensington Parish

Marr. TO WHOM Mr. Ashman

3. Martha

Died Alive 23 Apr 1733 Place date bro Samuel's will.

Born 11 May 1694 Place prob Kensington Parish

Marr. TO WHOM Mr. Castle

4. Hannah

Died Alive 23 Apr. 1733 Place date of bro Samuel's will.

Born 25 Dec 1697 Place prob Kensington Parish

Marr. TO WHOM Hannah

\*\* 5. Thomas

Died 16 Dec. 1754 Place Middletown, Ct.

Born 28 Apr 1700 Place prob Kensington Parish

Marr. 23 Sep 1730 TO WHOM Mercy/Marcy Winchil

6. Jonathan

Died 1754 Place

Born 16 Jul 1702 Place prob. Kensington Parish

Marr. unmarried TO WHOM at death

7. Samuel

Died bef: 1 May 1733 Place Kensington, Parish.

Born 28 Mar 1704 Place prob. Kensington Parish

Marr. 4 Jun 1724 TO WHOM Daniel Hancox

8. Rachel

Died Alive 10 Mar Place 1732/3

Born 1 Jul 1710 Place prob. Kensington Parish.

Marr. TO WHOM

9. Matthew

Died d. young Place Not named fathers will 1722

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM

10.

Died Place

Make a separate Family Form for each married child

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NAME &amp; ADDRESS OF PERSON SUBMITTING

See back of sheet

Use back of sheet for other information. Show residences, occupation, family history, Service record etc.

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DATE June 18, 1981

FAMILY RECORD Mrs. Paula Porter Griffin, R.D.#2 New London, Ohio 44851  
 (Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin)  
 419 area 929-2142

## HUSBAND

Thomas 3 Porter

Born 25 Dec 1697 Place Farmington Vital Records (Kensington Parish)  
 Marr. prob, 1730 Place  
 Died 16 Dec. 1754 Place Middletown, Ct. Where buried (Middletown Vital Rec)  
 HUSBAND'S FATHER Nehemiah 2 Porter HUSBAND'S MOTHER Hannah Iam  
 HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES (Daniel purchased land of his brother-in-law Daniel Hancox in Middletown on 13 Feb. 1729/30)

## WIFE

Hannah

Born Place  
 Died Still alive in 1774. Place Where buried  
 WIFE'S FATHER WIFE'S MOTHER  
 OTHER HUSBANDS

## CHILDREN

List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth

SEX	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1. William 4 Porter	Born 17 Mar 1731	Place Middletown, Ct. (Vit. Rec)	Marr. Ruth	TO WHOM	Died 13 Jun 1774	Place Hartland, Ct.	Born 15 Nov 1732	Place Middletown, Ct. (Vit Rec)	
F	2. Thomas	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	
	3.	Died	Place	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	
	4.	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	Born	Place	
	5.	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	
	6.	Died	Place	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	
	7.	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	Born	Place	
	8.	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	
	9.	Died	Place	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	
	10.	Born	Place	Marr.	TO WHOM	Died	Place	Born	Place	

Make a separate Family Form for each married child

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

## NAME &amp; ADDRESS OF PERSON SUBMITTING

Vital Records of Farmington, Ct. &amp; Middletown Ct.

Deeds of William Porter found in Hartland, Ct. &amp; his will

Land Records of Middletown, Ct.

Use back of sheet for other information. Show residences, occupation, family history, Service record etc.

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DATE June 18, 1981

FAMILY RECORD Mrs. Paula Porter Griffin, R.D. #2. New London, Ohio 44851

(Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin)

Phone area 419 - 929-2142 New London

## HUSBAND

William 4 Porter

Born 17 March 1731

Place Middletown, Ct. (Vital Records of Middletown)

Marr.

Died 13 June 1774

Place Hartland, Ct. Where Buried (Hartland 1st. Cong Ch. Rec)

HUSBAND'S FATHER Thomas 3 Porter

HUSBAND'S MOTHER Hannah

HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES

Ruth

## WIFE

Named in husbands will, also 1st. Cong. Ch Rec of Hartland May 1, 1768 &amp; West Hartland Cong. Ch. records her death

Born

Place

Died 10 Mar 1788

Place Hartland, Ct. Where buried

WIFE'S FATHER

WIFE'S MOTHER

OTHER HUSBANDS

SEX  
M  
F

## CHILDREN

List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth

1. Elishama 5- oldest son

Born ca. 1751 Place Prob. Middletown, Ct.

Marr. 28 May 1778 TO WHOM Mrs. Elizabeth Benjamin

Died 18 Aug 1825 Place W. Hartland Ch. rec.

Born Place Prob. Middletown

Marr. TO WHOM

2. John

Died 7 June 1777 Place 1st. Cong. Ch. Hartland Rec.

Born Place

Marr. 31 Aug. 1786 TO WHOM Phoebe Leavit

Died 1808-1810 Place Indiana or Ohio

Born Place prob. Middletown, Ct.

Marr. TO WHOM Nathaniel Allen/Allyn

4. Hannah - oldest dau

Died 1 Aug. 1782 Place 1st. Cong. Ch. Hartland Rec.

Born Place

Marr. 3 Jan 1788 TO WHOM Alexander Stewart

Died Place

5. Abigail

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM Ebenezer Barnes, Jr.

Died Alive 29 Jun 1791 Place Granville, Mass

Born bp 11 June 1767 Place 1st Ch Rec. Hartford

Marr. 28 Apr 1791 TO WHOM William Barnes

Died 16 Jan 1845, ae Place 78(Granville, Mass.

Born bp 24 Mar. 1771 Place Hartland, Ct.

Marr. TO WHOM

8. Electa

Died dec. by d. of bro Place John 7 June 1777

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM

9.

Died Place

Born Place

Marr. will - in the above order.

10. To date no vital records or church records have been found which gives the dates of birth of these children of William &amp; Ruth except the last two children.

Make a separate Family Form for each married child

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Land Records William Porter in Middletown and Hartland, Ct.

Land Records of Thomas Porter in Hartland

First Cong. Church Records of Hartland &amp; West Hartland Cong. Ch. records

NAME &amp; ADDRESS OF PERSON SUBMITTING

Use back of sheet for other information. Show residences, occupation, family history, Service record etc.

Will of John Porter, and William Porter

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FAMILY RECORD Mrs. Paula Porter Griffin, R.D. #2, New London, Ohio 44851

(Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin)

Phone 419 area 929-2142 New London

5.

## HUSBAND

Thomas 5 Porter

Born \_\_\_\_\_ Place Middletown, Ct. or Hartland, Ct.

Marr. 31 Aug. 1786 Place West Hartland Cong. Ch., of Hartland, Ct.

Died 1808-1810 Place Ind. or Ohio. Where Buried Scalped by indians.

HUSBAND'S FATHER William 4 Porter HUSBAND'S MOTHER Ruth

HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES \_\_\_\_\_

Phebe Leavit

WIFE (by tradition an orphan at age abt 3) when mar. of Hartland

Born ca 17 Mar. 1841 Place Conn.?

Died 17 Sept. 1841 age 80yr 6mo Place New London, Ohio Where buried Miller/Butterfield/Barrett Cemetery

WIFE'S FATHER \_\_\_\_\_ WIFE'S MOTHER New London, Ohio

OTHER HUSBANDS \_\_\_\_\_

SEX \_\_\_\_\_

M \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN

F \_\_\_\_\_ List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth

1. Betsey (Elizabeth)

Born bp, 2 Dec 1787 Place West Hartland Cong. Ch. rec.

Marr. 2/18 July 1819 TO WHOM 1st. Paul Scribner

Died aft 1850-Cin, Ohio 2nd. Francis Keyes

2. William

Born bp 18 Jul 1790 Place West Hartland Cong. Ch. rec.

Marr. TO WHOM

Died 26 June 1791 Place West Hartland Cong. Ch. rec.

Born ca 1792/3 Place Ct. acc to 1850 census

Marr. unmarried TO WHOM

3. Aurora

Died 8 Dec 1851-59y Place New London, Ohio

Born 23 Oct 1795 Place N.Y. acc to 1850 census

Marr. 19 Sep 1821 TO WHOM Polly Elmina Miner

\*\* 4. Philo Thomas War 1812 Ohio

Died 30 May 1876 Place Clinton, Rock Co., Wisconsin

By tradition a son

left on trip west

5. Lost son, flatboat left without

Died him - prob older Place

6.

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM

Died Place

7.

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM

Died Place

8.

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM

Died Place

9.

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM

Died Place

10.

Born Place

Marr. TO WHOM

Died Place

Make a separate Family Form for each married child

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NAME &amp; ADDRESS OF PERSON SUBMITTING

West Hartland Cong. Ch. Records, Hartland, Ct.

Cemetery Records Butterfield/Miller/Barrett Cem. New London, Ohio

Bible Records &amp; 1850 Census Records, Cemetery Rec. Clinton, Rock Co., Wisc.

Use back of sheet for other information. Show residences, occupation, family history, Service record etc.

Marriage Records, Huron Co, Ohio Family Records, &amp; Family traditions.

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SURNAME SEARCH



## DANIEL PORTER FAMILY

1. DANIEL 1 PORTER, was a physician in Farmington, Ct. from about 1650 to 1690, when he died there. As early as 1655, and for many years thereafter, he was in the employ of the Connecticut Colony as a surgeon, receiving money and lands for his services. Where or when he was born, or whence he came to Farmington, I know not. Robert and Thomas Porter, ancestors of Porter lines were his contemporaries in Farmington, and possibly his relatives. The will or rather the deed of gift, by which his property went to his wife and children, dated August 15, 1688, probated April 9, 1690, is in the Hartford Probate Court. He left a wife, Mary, whose surname I have not yet found. She was, I think the mother of his seven children, viz: Daniel, Mary, Nehemiah, Richard, Ann, John, and Samuel. # (#Porter Genealogy by Henry E. Burton, Middletown, Conn. 1896)

In a Porter Genealogy called A Genealogy of the Descendants of Richard Porter who settled at Weymouth, Mass. and Allied Families by Joeseeph W. Porter of Burlington, Maine 1878 He lists a number of Porter Families including Daniel Porter.

"Robert and Thomas Porter, brothers, were of the eight<sup>four</sup> proprietors of Farmington, Conn. in 1640. The first named was ancestor of President Noah Porter, of Yale College."

"Daniel Porter, surgeon, of Farmington, Conn. before 1653, said by one authority to have been a brother of Robert and Thomas, of that town."

In further researching I have found that Robert Porter of Farmington was supposed to have come from Stratford, Conn. In another account I found that Thomas Porter was supposed to have come from Stratford, Conn. However in the Genealogies taken from History of Stratford & Bridgeport, Volume 3, by Orcott, pg.1272, none of the three, viz; Robert, Thomas or Daniel appear in the records. However there is a Nathaniel Porter with wife Elizabeth who would also be a contempory of the three found in Farmington.

At a genealogical meeting held on Nov. 20, 1980 at New England Historical and Genealogical Society, at Greenwich, Conn. Mr. David Sumas gave a speech on Probate Records and Mrs. Helen Ransom of West Hartford, Conn. sent me a few notes on his speech. PROBATE: "Early on in the towns there was usually a general record book which had everything in it-tax, vital, church, general goings-on. BOND: - Until bond was filed, the man could not act. Only the executor or administrator can bind the estate. In early times there was no incentive to close the estate if everyone was happy. Many files began with a "certificate of appointment" and ended there.

HEARING BEFORE THE COURT: The details were necessary. Real estate was cheap. Personal property was very valuable. The itemization was necessary. It covered the executor - however it may not always have been right. It was an estimate of land. The inventory put a dollar value on everything. If there was fighting among the family members, then a public auction was held. The real reason for the listing of the names of the children was the proof of the sanity of the man - if he could remember the names of his children - then he was deemed sane.

A man had no right over his wife's land unless there was a child. Dower right - the widow's right in her husbands estate whether a child or not. At common law a widow had dower to squat- to use 1/3 of real estate during her widowhood or life. No ownership implied or meant. "



## Page 57.

Porter, Daniel sen., Farmington. A Deed of Gift in lieu of a Will, dated 15 August, 1688:

To all Christian People to whome it may concerne: Know ye that I Daniel Porter sen. of Farmington, in the County of Hartford, in New England, for and in Consideration of my natural Love & Affection to my beloved wife & Children, & for other good Cause thereunto me moving, have given, granted, assigned, set over & confirmed, and do by these presents give, grant, assign, set over & confirm, fully, wholly, clearly, & unto them in manner as followeth: Item. I give unto my wife Mary Porter all my Household Goods & one Cow, the use of the longer rooms in my Dwelling house and a comfortable maintenance here provided for her by my sons John and Samuel Porter, during her Widowhood. I give my daughter Anna my heifer with a Calf, also some other Cow, to be wintered and summered for her by my sons John & Samuel Porter during the time of her single state; also a peice of Land, unless my sons see Cause to pay her the sum of £10. I give to my son Daniel Porter my Woodlott lying against Wethersfield Bounds. Unto my sons Daniel and Richard Porter I give my Farme lying part in Wallingford, butting upon Farmington on the North, 60 acres of it to Daniel Porter & 40 acres to Richard Porter. To my son Nehemiah Porter I give my 20 acres of Land in the Great Swamp, also my Division of Land adjacent to the Great Swamp. I give to my son John Porter the Land which I bought of Thomas Richeson, both Swamp & Upland. I give to my daughter my Lands lying in or by the Great Swamp which I received by an Exchange for other Lands with Joseph Woodford, all which parcels of Land aforementioned lying within the Township of Farmington except the forementioned Farme. To my

sons John & Samuel Porter I doe give my Dwelling house & Outhouses, Barn, Orchard & Homelott in Farmington, and also my Lands in Farmington Meadow, and all my Land at the Long Swamp, and all my Pasture Land lying in the Mill Swamp, also all my Land at the Great Pond; & also I give unto my sons John & Samuel Porter all my Personal Estate except what was given before to my wife and my daughter Anna, as all my Cattle, Horses, Sheep & Swine, as also all my Tools & all the Implements belonging to my teame and Husbandry, the forementioned John & Samuel Porter receiveing and paying all my Just Debts and providing for their Mother according to what is before mentioned. The remainder of my Land lying in the Township of Farmington I give to my Children, Daniel, Nehemiah, Richard, John, Samuel & Anne Porter.

Witness: *John Stanly sen.,*  
*John Hooker.*

DANIEL X PORTER. Ls.

Court Record, Page 14—9 April, 1690: The son of Daniel Porter, Bonesetter, of Farmington, presented a Deed of Gift whereby his Father disposed of his Estate. Approved as his Will & Deed.

Ref: Early Connecticut Probate Records, Manwaring, Vol.1  
Compiled by Charles William Manwaring, Member Conn. Historical Society, Hartford District. Vol. III was 1729-1750 published in Hartford, Conn. by R.S. Peck & Co., Printers in 1906.

Sent by Mrs. Mildred Smith, Hemet, California.

The following children were born to Dr. Daniel Porter probably all in Farmington, although they do not appear in Vital Records of Farmington unless noted.

2. i Daniel 2 Porter b. Feb. 2, 1652 (1653 S) also a M.D. and an original proprietor of Waterbury, Ct. where he died in 1726, leaving six children. His wife, Deborah Holcombe, dau. of Joshua Holcomb and Ruth Sherwood, of Windsor, died in Waterbury (14 Mar.S) 1765, aged 93. He left no will. He gave much of his property to his children in his lifetime and his estate was settled in the Woodbury Probate Court.  
 Ch: Daniel b. March 5, 1699, d. at age 76.  
 James b. Apr. 20, 1700, d. at age 85.  
 Thomas b. Apr. 1, 1702, d. at age 95.  
 Deborah b. Mar. 6, 1703, d. at age 97. (1704 S)  
 Ebenezer b. Dec. 24, 1708, d. at age 95.  
 Ann b. Apr. 28, 1712, living in 1801. †  
 Many records found on these families in History of Waterbury.

3. ii Mary b. Feb. 5, 1654 (1655 S); married Eleazur Knowles, of Woodbury. Had sons and daughters and died in 1732. † Not named in fathers will.

- \* 4. iii Nehemiah b. Oct. 24, 1656; married Hannah Lum of Woodbury and died in 1722. (more on this family to follow) †

5. iv Richard, M.D. b. March 24, 1658, was an early proprietor of Waterbury, whence about 1717, he went to New Haven, and there died in 1740. He had a wife Ruth, who died in Waterbury in 1710, and a wife, Sarah, who survived him. He had twelve children. His will, I understand, is in the New Haven Probate Court. †

Ch: Daniel b. prob at Farmington.  
 Joshua b. Waterbury, 7 Aug. 1688  
 Mary b. " 14 Jan. 1691  
 Ruth b. " Oct. 1692  
 Samuel b. " 30 Mar. 1695  
 Hezekiah " 29 Jan. 1697 died young.  
 John b. " 11 June 1700  
 Timothy b. " 21 Dec. 1701  
 Hezekiah " 27 July 1704

Wife Ruth died 9 Jan. 1710 and he mar. 2nd.  
 Sarah and had children:

Joshua b. New Haven where he had removed.  
 Richard " " 22 Aug. 1722  
 Lydia b. " "

Richard probably died in 1740 as his will of 13 Nov. 1738 was probated in Feb. 1740. (S)

† Porter Genealogy by Henry E. Burton, Middletown, Ct. 1896  
 (S) Genealogical Dictionary of New England, by Savage Vol. III.



6. v Ann b. March 7, 1660, was single when her father's will was made, and I think she died, unmarried, about 1720. Savage says she born 1661. ‡
7. vi. John b. Nov. 14, 1662, mar. 2 Jan 1696, Rebecca, dau. of Joseph Woodford, and had second wife Martha North. He died in 1740. (s) He lived in Farmington and died there in 1740, leaving children. His will is in the Hartford Probate Court. ‡  
In his will John names the following children:  
Rebeckah Wadsworth  
Mary Cowles  
Hester Porter  
Anne Porter  
Ebenezer Porter  
John's second wife was Martha Porter, the daughter of Thomas 1 Porter and wife Sarah Hart of Farmington. Martha was born 1666, and died July 11, 1749. She married before Jan. 3, 1686/7 Joseph North who was bap. Mar. 18, 1659 and died 1731, son of John North. Martha mar. 2nd. Sergt. John Porter a widower who was born Nov. 14, 1662 and died between Feb. 2, 1739/40 and Feb. 11, 1740/41 son of Daniel Porter the "Bonesetter". \* Following are the wills of John Porter and his wife Martha Porter North Porter. (See Julius Gay Manuscript, Ct. Hist. Society. \*) The Ebenezer Porter mentioned in both of these wills is the brother of Martha.

1737 TO 1742.

PROBATE RECORDS.

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Page 310.

Porter, John, Farmington. Invt. £813-08-10. Taken 11 February, 1740-1, by Isaac Cowles, John Hart and Nathaniel Wadsworth. Will dated 22 February, 1739-40.

I, John Porter of Farmington, do make this my last will and testament: I give to Martha, my beloved wife, all that remains of the household goods that she brought with her, and all the linen that was made since she came to my house by marriage, and one cow, and one heifer, and 2 silver spoons, and £40 in money that is out at interest, and the liberty of pasturing one cow, and the liberty of 1-2 of the house and homestead during her natural life. I give to my daughter Rebeckah Wadsworth £60. I give to my daughter Mary Cowles £5. I give to my daughter Hester £50. I give to my daughter Anne Porter £10. Further, I give unto my four daughters, namely, Rebeckah Wadsworth, and my daughter Mary Cowles, and Hester Porter, and my daughter Anne Porter, all the remainder of real and personal estate forever. I make my son Ebenezer Porter executor.

Witness: Isaac Cowles,  
Jonathan Bird, Solomon Cowles.

JOHN PORTER, LS.

Court Record, Page 83—3 March, 1740-1: Will now exhibited by Ebenezer Porter. Proven.

Early Connecticut Probate Records, compiled by Charles William Manwaring. Vol. 3.

‡ Porter Genealogy by Henry E. Burton, Middletown, Ct. 1896

\* Julius Gay Manuscript, Ct. Historical Society, Hartford, Ct.

Page 317-364.

Porter, Martha, Widow, Farmington. Invt. £415-01-00. Taken 2 August, 1749, by William Wadsworth and Elisha Lewis. Will dated 3 April, 1741.

I, Martha Porter, of the Town of Farmington, do make this my last will and testament: All my estate whatsoever, after my just debts are paid, I give and bequeath the whole to my loving and obliging sister Ruth Root, widow, to be her own and her heirs forever. And I do hereby constitute my aforementioned sister Ruth Root and her son John Smith to be executors.

Witness: *John Hooker,*  
*Abigail X Hooker, Mary Hooker.*

MARTHA X PORTER.

Codicil, dated 20 December, 1742: Be it known to all men by these presents: That whereas I, Martha Porter of Farmington, widow and relict of John Porter, lately decd., have made and declared my last will and testament in writing, bearing date the 3rd day of April, 1749, I, the sd. Martha Porter, do by this present codicil confirm and ratify my sd. last will and testament, and do make this little addition to the sd. will: I do constitute and ordain my loving kinsman Ebenezer Porter of sd. Farmington (with whome I now dwell) to be an executor added to the other two mentioned in my sd. will, meaning that this codicil be and be judged to be part and parcel of my sd. will.

Witness: *John Hooker.*

MARTHA X PORTER, LS.

*Mercy Hooker.*

Court Record, Page 105—1st August, 1749: The last will and testament of Martha Porter, late of Farmington, was now exhibited in Court by Ebenezer Porter and John Smith, two of the executors, making request to have it recorded, which this Court grant.

Page 121—6 March, 1749-50: An inventory of the estate of Widow Martha Porter, late of Farmington, was now exhibited in Court by Ebenezer Porter, which inventory this Court accepts.

8. vii Samuel, M.D. b. Oct. 24, 1665, succeeded his father as a physician in Farmington, and died there in 1740 leaving children. He married Abigail Humphries, probably of Simsbury, about 1702. She died Oct. 11, 1735 in her 56th. year, and her gravestone stands by his in the old burying ground in Farmington. His will dated June 26, 1735, probated April 13, 1736, is in the Hartford Probate Court. † Samuel and his brother John called the sons of Daniel were admitted to the Church in Farmington on May 2, 1708. (Farmington Ch. Rec.†) The following children named in his will.
- Abigail Thomas - bp. June 13, 1708 †
  - Ezekiel - bp. June 13, 1708 †
  - Sarah Lee, wife of Hezekiah Lee
  - Eunice Wadsworth
  - Thomas
  - James
  - Hezekiah born abt. 1717
  - Samuel born abt. 1719, according to will which follows:

‡ Porter Genealogy by Henry E. Burton, Middletown, Ct. 1896.  
Early Conn. Probate Records, by Manwaring, Volume 3  
 † Farmington Church Records.



Porter, Doctor Samuel. Invt. #1364-00-06. Taken by John Porter, Isaac Cowles and Nathaniel Wadsworth. Will dated 21 June, 1735.

I, Samuel Porter, doctor, of Farmington, do make this my last will and testament: I give unto my wife Abigail Porter, to be at her own

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PROBATE RECORDS

VOL. XII,

dispose forever, 1-2 part of all my household goods and two cows, also one horse (which she shall choose). I give unto her, during her natural life, the use and profit of 1-2 part of all my lands now under improvement. I give her 1-2 part of all my buildings. Unto my three daughters, viz., Abigail Thomas, Sarah Lee and Eunice Wadsworth, I give and bequeath all the rest of my household goods, to be equally divided between them. Unto my son, Ezekiel Porter, besides what I have already given him, I now give to him the 51st lott in number in the fourth division of lands in Farmington, laid out on the right of my father, about 103 acres. Unto my son Thomas Porter, I give severall parcels of land within the bounds of the Township of Farmington, viz., all the lands laid out in my father's right and half the land laid out on the right of Mr. Newton as is contained in the 6th allotment in the division of lands lying against Hartford and Windsor, about 125 acres; also all the land laid on my father's right in the 11th allotment in the 2nd division of land in Farmington, 103 acres more or less. Unto my son Hezekiah Porter I give all the lands that was laid out on the right of Capt. John Stanly in the 9th allotment in the 2nd division in Farmington, 150 acres more or less; also the 10th lott in number in the 6th division, containing 103 acres more or less, which lott was laid out on my father's right. Unto my son Samuel Porter I give lands and buildings in sd. Farmington as followeth, viz., my homelott where I now live, with all the buildings thereon standing; also my pasture at ye place called ye Mill Swamp; also my pasture across the way against my house; also all my land that I have in the common field; also all my land at a place called ye Long Swamp; also all my land at a place called White Oak Plaine. My wife to have the use as is before willed to her. My will further is, that all the remainder of my personal estate, after the foregoing legacies and debts are paid, shall belong to and be equally divided among my three youngest sons, James Porter, Hezekiah Porter and Samuel Porter. I will and bequeath my right lying in common in the reserved lands in Farmington to be equally divided among my four sons. I make my son Ezekiel Porter and my son-in-law Hezekiah Lee to be executors.

Witness: Giles Hooker  
Gershom Lewis, Thomas Smith

Samuel Porter, LS.

Court Record, Page 43-6 April, 1736: Will proven. Hezekiah Porter, age 19 years, and Samuel Porter, age 17 years, chose Ezekiel Porter to be their guardian.

Failed to xerox this page, therefore, copied by M. Smith 8/80



4. NEHEMIAH 2 PORTER, born in Farmington, Ct. 24 Oct. 1656, mar. Hannah Lum of Woodbury, and d. in 1722.†  
Nehemiah married 21 Jan. 1687 Hannah Lum, perhaps the daughter of John Lumm. She was baptized at First Congregational Church in Woodbury, May 31, 1685. (Ch. Rec.) and died 17 May 1710 (S-1969)

Nehemiah was the son of Daniel Porter and his wife Mary. In land records his father was called Daniel Porter the "Bonesetter" referring to his occupation as a physician.

Nehemiah lived in Kensington Parish, Farmington, Hartford County, Ct. and was one of the founders of the Church in Kensington Parish. To date we have not been able to locate any church records of Kensington Parish.

Nehemiah probably lived in Kensington Parish because this is the place that his father, Daniel, left him land in his will.

"To my son Nehemiah Porter I give my 20 acres of Land in the Greap Swamp, also my Division of Land adjacent to the Great Swamp."

KENSINGTON was a community and Ecclesiastical Society - the north west section of the town. Earlier names, Great Swamp and Farmington Village. Earliest record of name 1710, General Assembly. Farmington Village, commonly called the Great Swamp... "The name of the village shall be called Kensington. Church organ at Kensington in 1712 as the Second or Great Swamp Society of Farmington. The East Society was split off in 1722. The Kensington Society was finally dissolved in 1922. "There is no authentic record why the name Kensington was chosen or who suggested it; the link with Kensington, England, is unknown." The latter was the residence of Queen Anne's Court, ca. 1710.

PORTER SWAMP: A road to the old mill was attempted ca. 1650 through Porter Swamp which was to be a continuation of Meadow Lane.

No mention in this volume of Kensington Church or Cemetery. The cemetery with the early Porters in it is called Old Farmington Cemetery. - Conn. Place Names, sent by Mrs. Helen Ransom.

Nehemiah and Hannah had nine children and their birth dates and names are to be found in Genealogical Dictionary of New England by Savage in a reprint published in 1969 with corrections and additions, on pages 462 and 660. Indicated in text as (S-1969)

The information on Nehemiah's children sent to me from Savage, by Mrs. Anne Frary Lepak of Port Richey, Florida says there is also information on Nehemiah in TAG 40:214. She also says she has nothing on Daniel, Thomas and Robert Porter being brothers.

Nehemiah died in 1722, sometime between the date of his will which was 23 May 1722 and the date it was probated on 2 Oct. 1722 in the Hartford Probate Court. †. A copy of his will and inventory follows.



## Page 124.

Porter, Nehemiah, Farmington. Invt. £408-08-11. Taken 5 November, 1722, by Thomas Hart and Samuel Smith. Will dated 23 May, 1722.

I, Nehemiah Porter of Farmington, do make this my last will and testament: I give of my land equally to all my children. To my sons John Porter and Jonathan Porter I have given something already by deeds of gift, both their shares to be made equal to the rest of my children in the distribution of my real estate. And concerning my personal or moveable estate, I give unto my grandson John Porter £3 as money. I give unto my granddaughters Ann and Abigail Porter the sum of thirty shillings to each of them. Item. Unto my grandson, the son of my daughter Hannah, I give the young mare I bought of Sergt. Isaac Hart. Item. I give unto my well-beloved son Jonathan the black mare bought of John North and a sorrell mare about 3 years old. Item. I give unto my son Samuel a dark brown mare colt about one year old. And when my debts and necessary charges are paid, my will is that the rest of my estate in moveables be equally divided amongst all my children. And moreover, my will is that the household stuff that my daughters Martha and Hannah have gotten with their own labor shall not be brought into the inventory of my estate. I appoint my sons Thomas Porter and Jonathan Porter executors. Witness: *William Burnham,* NEHEMIAH X PORTER, LS.  
*Hezekiah Hart, Isaac Hart.*

Court Record, Page 176—2 October, 1722: Will proven.

Page 9 (Vol. X) 5 March, 1722-3: Thomas and Jonathan Porter, executors, exhibited an account. Accepted. Order to dist. the estate according to the last will and testament of the deed, viz. (see file): To Martha, to Thomas, Jonathan, Samuel, Rachel and John Porter. By Isaac Newton, Thomas Hart and Isaac Hart.

Page 36 (Vol. XIII) 8 November, 1738: Nathaniel Winchell of Farmington informed this Court that he purchased 1-3 part of a lott of land in sd. Farmington of the heirs of Nehemiah Porter of Farmington, which lies in common with Daniel Woodruff and Doctor Samuel Porter's heirs, of which one is a minor, viz., Samuel Porter. Sd. lott of land was laid out on the right of Doctor Daniel Porter of sd. Farmington deceased, and lieth in a division commonly known by the name of Shuttle Meadow Mountain, and bounds south on a highway, north on land of the heirs of the Rev. John Hart of Guilford deceased, and the land lies in common or joynt tenancy as is above mentioned and with Mr. George Wilton of sd. Farmington. Nathaniel Winchell prays this Court for a division. This Court appoint Thomas Hart, Lt. Samuel Cowles and Mr. Samuel Hooker of Farmington, with Mr. Ezekiel Porter, guardian to Samuel Porter, a minor and one of the heirs of sd. estate, to divide sd. estate by meets and bounds.

Page 37—7 November, 1738: Report of the division to the several claimants.

Ref: Early Connecticut Probate Records by  
Manwaring Volume 2.  
From Mrs. Mildred Smith, Hemet, Calif.



The following materials are copied from the zeroxed copies of the original records sent by Mrs. Helen Ransom of West Hartford, Ct. which she found in connection with the estate of Nehemiah Porter.

The Last Will and Testament of Nehemiah Porter of Farmington, Made May 23, 1722.

"In the name of God, Amen, I Nehemiah Porter of Farmington in the County of Hartford and Colony of Connecticut in New England, being of sound and perfect mind and memory, tho under great Bodily Weaknefs, Do make and ordain this my prefent Last Will and Testament in manner and form following, that is to say.

First and principally, I commend my soul into the Hands of Almighty God. hoping through the merits and suffering of my Saviour Jefus Christ, to have full and free pardon and forgivenefs of all my sins and to inherit Everlasting life and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently Buried at the discharge of my executors hereafter named; and as Touching the Disposition of all such Personal Estate as it hath pleafed the Almighty God to bestow upon me, I give and difpofe thereof as follows.

First. I will that my debts and funeral charges shall be paid and discharged.

Item that after my debts and funeral charges are paid and discharged, that the whole Refidue of my Estate both Real and Personal be divided among my Children in Manner and form as followeth, namely that all my Estate in Lands be Equally for Quantity and Quality Divided unto and amongst my Welbloved children both sons and daughters alike, Excepting my two sons John Porter and Jonathan Porter to both of which I have already by deeds of gift made over something of my Real Estate, concerning whom my will is that they shall have each of them so much of the furplufage or Remainder of my estate, as shall (together with what I have given them by Deeds of gift as above said,) make both their shares or portions at or Indifferent valuation to be Equal with or at least as great as the Portions or shares of the rest of their Brethren and Sisters when the distribution of my Estate is finished

And concerning my Perfonal or moveable Estate my will is as followeth.

First, I give, unto my grandson John Porter three pounds thereof as money.

Item unto my grand-Daughters Anne and Abigail Porter the sum Thirty Shillings to Each of them.

Item unto my grandson, the son of my Daughter Hannah I give the young Mare I Bought of Sergt. Isaac Hart.

Item I give unto my welbeloved son Jonathan the black mare - bought of John North, and a Sorrell mare about three years old.

Item I give unto my welbeloved son Samuel a Dark brown mare colt about one year old. and when my Debts and necefsary charges are paid my will is that the Rest of my Estate in moveables be equally divided amongst all my children, and moreover my will is that the houfehold stuff that my Daughters Martha and Hannah have gotten by their own Labour shall not



be brought into the Inventory of my Estate. and I do hereby appoint and constitute my welbeloved sons Thomas Porter and Jonathan Porter, Executors of this my Last Will and Testament, and do hereby disanull any former will or Testament by me heretofore made. In witnefs whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty third Day of May Anno Dom. 1722 and in the Eighth year of his majesties Reign.

Signed and Sealed in  
prefence of us.

William Burnham  
Hezekiah hart

his  
Nehemiah X Porter

\* \* \* \* \*

### INVENTORY

November ye 5, 1722

An inventory of the lands and movable estate of Nehemiah porter of cencington (Kensington) in farmington in ye county of hartford in the colloni of Connecticut: Late Deceased.

Namely first;

one loose cloth cote: 10 s :	& one straitbodied cote 15 s;	01 - 05 - 0
one pair of cloth briches 3 s;	& one hat 5 s; a pair of	
	bootes 3 s;	00 - 11 - 0
one sword and belt 4 shillings;	one Indian gun thirty	
	shillings	01 - 14 - 0
one old musksquit 15 shillings		00 - 15 - 0
Six Bibles and divers old Divinity Books all at		02 - 00 - 0
one iron pot 10 s; one little iron pot 8 s; an iron		
	tramel 5	01 - 03 - 0
one iron cettel 16 s; one old bras cattel -one pound		
	seven shillings	02 - 03 - 0
A pair of iron tongs 5 S; twelve pounds of old iron 2 s;		00 - 07 - 0
one small puter platter one shillings & 6 pence		00 - 01 - 6
Three wooden dishes & six trenchers (knives) all		00 - 02 - 0
one earthen mug 1 s; one iron lamp six pence		00 - 01 - 6
one pair of Stillards 7s ; one smoothing iron one s;		00 - 08 - 0
one chest 10s ; one small table 2s'; one pair of tailer		
	sheres 2 s;	00 - 14 - 0
one hecthel (hatchel, a toothed instrument for cleansing		
flax or hemp) 6 s; one pare of sheep sheres 1 s, 6 p		00 - 07 - 6
one small wheale & two old chests without lids		00 - 02 - 0
one hy bedstedel & cord 4 s, 6 p; on Lo stedele & cord		
	(bedstead) 7 s, 6 p	00 - 12 - 0
Three barrels 8 s; 2 old hogsets 3 s, 6 p: one dry cask		
	one shilling & 6 p;	00 - 13 - 0
one Rundlit ( a small barrel of varying capacity)-		
half a crown; two old pails three shillings		00 - 05 - 6
one saut (? suet) tub 2 s; one old wooden tunil (pipe ?)		
	1 s	00 - 03 - 0
one tobackco box one shilling & tongs 4 pence; one gray		
	bottle 8 pence	00 - 02 - 0
one cow bel 5 s; one old bel 6 pence; two old silver 2 s;		00 - -7 - 6
one yoke of oxen ten pound; one cow 3 pound, 10 shillings		13 - 10 - 0

one cow three pounds and five shillings; one browne mare	
at 3 pounds 10 shillings	06 - 15 - 0
one brak hors(e) at four pound fifteen shillings	04 - 15 - 0
four sheepe at one pound, four shilling	01 - 04 - 0
one cart with ye furniture at 2 pound, fifteen shillings	02 - 15 - 0
an old clave & pin at 4 s; an old timber chain at 5 s:	00 - 09 - 0
a pair of brase chaines & one collar & Seals all 8 s:	00 - 08 - 0
2 old side chaines 3 s; a pair of betle rings & wedges	
6 shillings 8 p	00 - 09 - 8
one steele trap at 12 s; one brode axe 3 s, 6 p:	00 - 15 - 6
a mason hamer & trowel 5 s, & 6 p; one nailing hamer 1 s	00 - 06 - 6
one narrow ax 6 s; one old ax at 2 s; another old ax 1 s	00 - 09 - 0
one sythe & furnytuer at 3 s: A folk tines 2 s:	00 - 05 - 0
2 brode hoes 2 s; one narrow ho at 1 s; a draw shave 2 s;	00 - 05 - 0
a pair of plow irons at 18 s: & one pair of small ones	
5 s:	01 - 03 - 0
one greate cheave 1 s, 6 p: three small ones 4 s:	00 - 05 - 0
one halfe bushel 6 pence, one powder horn 2 pence	00 - 00 - 8
one great aimblit 6 p: a peece of a couar 4 p	00 - 00 - 10
one ox sled at 6 s; one pound a/l of wool at 2 s:	00 - 08 - 0
one bill or bond of 20 pounds from Jonathan porter	
to ye Estate	20 - 00 - 0
and four pounds which we judg the consideration the	
sd (said) Jonathan porter had for ye above sd bill to	
be better than the bill.	04 - 00 - 3
and nine hundred of sawne bords at 4 s per hundred	02 - 00 - 0
four swine now in ye woods supposed to be worth	03 - 00 - 0
fivety acres of Land in the home Lott at two hundred	
and ten pounds	210 - 00 - 0
Twenty five acres & 4/3 of upland in a Lott at the	
place called ye two mile Brook, butting east on	
midle towne line att forty pounds	40 - 00 - 0
five acres of Land lying between Mr belchers farm	
and Lamentation mountain at 2 pounds 10 shillings	02 - 10 - 0
fourtane acers of Land lying in a Lott mint in the	
division of Land called ye blew hill division	
at 28 pounds	28 - 00 - 0
Thirty five acrs and three Roods of Land Lying in the	
24 Lott ment in ye division of Land between the	
mountains at twenty two pound	22 - 00 - 0
Eaighteene acrs of Land in the 16th Lottment of the	
division of Land N Against Hartford Bounds	
att Eaighttane pound	18 - 00 - 0
Twelve acres and one Roode in ye 43 Lott of the north	
division of Land on ye west side ye river	03 - 01 - 3
Three acers 2/1 of Land in ye North division of land,	
East side ye river 56 Lott at one pound fiveteene s;	01 - 15 - 0
Division west from ye towne reserved Land at	06 - 00 - 0

The perticulars on this sheat in each page were presented  
to us by the executors on the will of Nehemiah porter  
deceased and were aprised by us the subscribers  
Som provision ye family lived upon Some ye doth of Mr  
Porter (and as sworn and some small matter still left  
that is not approve.

Thomas Hart Commisors  
Samuel Smith under oath.



EXECUTORS ACCOUNT OF PAYMENTS OF DEBTS DUE FROM YE.  
ESTATE OF NEHEMIAH PORTER 1722

1722

NEHEMIAH PORTER OF FARMINGTON

Dr. Dec<sup>d</sup>

To Thomas Porter and Jonathan Porter Executors to his estate .  
viz forgoing debts belonging to his Estate.

	L	s	p
To cash paid James Coisson	0	18	0
To Cash paid Nathanel hartt	0	8	0
To Cash paid to John houker	0	2	6
To Cash paid to Robert Bouth	0	1	8
To Cash paid to Samuelli Galpin	0	11	0
To Cash paid to Caleb Galpin	0	4	6
To Cash paid to Ebinizer Gilbord	0	3	0
To Cash paid to John houker	0	2	0
To Cash paid to John Norton	0	18	0
To Cash paid to Thomas Eortis	0	5	0
To Cash paid to John Seymer	0	3	0
To Cash paid to Wilam Burham	0	9	0
To Cash paid to Mr. Amborley	0	1	0
To Cash paid to Samuelli hartt	0	1	0
To Cash paid to Elizor Asppinwell	0	3	0
To Cash paid to hezekiah Hartt	0	3	0
To Cash paid to Solomon Gough	0	8	6
To Cash paid to Isaac Hartt	0	2	0
To Cash paid to John Honkers (houker)	0	9	8
To Cash paid to Sargant Winchell	0	18	8
To Cash paid to Elizor Asppinwell	0	1	0
To Cash paid to Mr. William Burham-minister	0	9	0
To Cash paid to Samuelli Hartt	0	1	6
To Cash paid to Thomas Hartt	0	1	6
To Cash paid to Samull hanker	0	2	6
To Cash paid to Deken Thomas hartt	8	4	6
To Cash paid to Gorge Stilman	5	5	7
To Cash paid to Jonethen Insing	0	19	0
To Cash paid to Josiah hartt	1	14	4
To Cash paid to Jonethen Lee	1	1	6
To Cash paid to Ebinezer Gilbord	2	1	0
To Cash paid Samuel Smith	1	8	4
To Cash paid Wilam Wadsworth	1	7	8
To Cash paid Isaac Norton	1	9	6
To Cash paid by Samuel Cortis To <u>wstane</u> borkery	8	4	0
The last article to be allowed to ye young man that paid it.	26	16	10

These figures found on the margin of the sheet:

362	-	4	-	9
46	-	14	-	2
408	-	18	-	11
92	-	00	-	0
500	-	18	-	11
38	-	14	-	10
467	-	4	-	1

Wee the subscribers being appointed and impoured by ye Court of probate held at Hartford March 5th, 1722/3: to distribute ye Estate of Nehemiah Porter Late of Farming towne deceased: to and among ye children & heirs of ye sd Jury? two and pursuant to ye sd order: March ye 28, 1722/3. Wee having first deducted out of ye inventory of sd estate ye sum of 33 - 14 - 6 have distributed ye remainder as followeth:

	L	s	p
in first to <u>Martha Porter</u> - one cow & sundry books all at	03	14	00
To sundries in hou & stuf at inventory price all	03	19	00
To 4 pounds in a bil from Jonathan Porter	04	00	00
To four acres & three Roodes of Land in ye great Loot at two mile Brook	07	07	09
To 12 acres & one Rood of Land in ye home Loot at ye South eand of ye sd Lott	42	06	06
	61	10	00
To <u>Hannah Porter</u> -To Sundries in moveables at inventory prise	01	17	08
To 4 pound, 16 s, & 4 pence in a bill from Jonathan Porter	04	16	04
To 14 acars of Land in ye Loot lying in ye division called blew hill division	28	00	00
To 103 of Land Lying in ye sixteen of Lotts in ye west division	06	00	00
To 4 acres & 3/4 of Land in ye great Lott next Middletonne bounds	07	03	09
To 3 acars & 3/4 in ye home lott Lying between Jonathan & Rachel-their land	13	12	00
	61	10	01
To <u>Thomas Porter</u> : To Sundrys in moveables at inventory prise	01	17	08
To 4 acers & 3/4 of Land in ye great Lott next Middle tonne bounds	07	03	09
To 6 acers of Land in ye home lot lying between Thomas Jonathan Porter and Samuel Porter on ye north side of River running cros ye lot east & west	30	00	00
To 3 acers & 3/4 in ye sd lott butting north on sam & south of ye river	18	15	00
	61	10	01
To <u>Jonathan Porter</u> to sundry in moveable at inventory prise	06	10	06
To 5 acars of Land lying east of belches farm at 2 pound 10 s	02	16	00
To 9 acers in ye home Lot at ye north Eand of sd lot running cros ye eand west side river	45	00	00
To 12 acers & 1/4 of Land in ye 43: Loot of ye North division	03	01	03
To 3 acers 2/1 of land in ye north division on ye East side ye River & 56 Lot	01	15	00
To one acre in ye home Lott south of ye river lying betweene Martha & Hannah runing east and west theron	03	10	01
	61	10	01



To <u>Samull Porter</u> to sundrys in moveable at inventory prise	02	03	06
To 3 & 4/3 pracacl(parcel) of Land in ye division of land between ye mountains at	22	00	00
To 4 acers & 3/4 of Land in ye great lot next Middle towne bounds	07	07	07
To 6 acres of land in ye home lot north of ye river next to Thomas Porter	<u>30</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>00</u>
	61	10	01

To <u>Rachel Porter</u> : To sundries in moveabls at inventory prise	02	03	06
To 4 acers & 3/4 of Land in ye great lot next Middletowne bounds	07	07	07
To 18 acers in 16th Lotment in ye division against Hartford	18	00	00
To 8 acers 2/1 & 30 rod in ye home lot south of ye river next hannah	<u>27</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>08</u>
	61	10	01

To <u>John Porter</u> of hartford on ye account of his three children expresed in ye will: to several of moveabls at inventory prise	02	13	00
To 2 acers of Land in ye great Lot next to mideltown bounds to be taken next his owne land he had by deed of gift	<u>03</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>00</u>
	06	00	00

By Isaac Norton )  
Thomas Hart ) Distributers under oath  
Isaac Hart )

\* \* \* \* \*

This acct of money (rest of line missing)  
Exhibited into ye court of Probate in Hartford an was \_\_\_\_\_  
and this Court on or had Distribution be made of ye Roall (real)  
Estate of Nehomia Porter of farmington deceased according to  
his will viz:

And this Court appoint witness: Thomas Hart )  
Isaac Hart ) Distributors  
Isaac Norton )

Jonathan Porter and Thomas Porter personally appeared before  
this Court and acknowledged themselves bound to the honor  
of the County of Hartford in a Recognisanced of fourty pounds  
Currant money of this colony that they will fully pay all the  
debts and a \_\_\_\_\_ of debts that shall be or appear to be  
due from their father Nomiah Porter late of farmington  
deceased Estate.

pd 2 s

Joseph C. Tallcott Judge.

This long and involved lists of Nehemiah Porter's personal property and real estate gives us some insight into the life of our ancestor. The kinds of material things our ancestor had accumulated during his life. He inherited 20 acres of land from his father but in his inventory he had over 163 acres of land which he left to his children and apparently had in addition given land to his sons Jonathan and John before his will was written.

The people of those days did not have a lot of education as we would judge them by today's standards. They spelled words the way they sounded. Kettle was spelled cettel; coat was cote, bell became bel, etc. Nehemiah's will was evidently written by someone else and he signed it with his mark. Possibly because he was too sick to write his name out and perhaps he did not know how to write his name. However we do find that his inventory listed six Bibles and divers Divinity Books so he must have been able to read. Note also the will is written in the old style spelling, viz, all words with an s in them is written as an f. Where two s's appear in the same word together the first s is always written as an f, thus the word necessary is always spelled necefsary. As a whole the material was well written. The worst and most illegible material was that written by Judge Joseph C. Tallcott of the Probate Court of Hartford. I have tried to give the exact spelling etc of the original records and I underscored words I was not sure of.

I am including all the material I have available on Nehemiah Porter's children. Some I have a lot, others not much, but in order to make it easier to find the children I am going to give them all in a group and then follow this with information on each child. Few of Nehemiah's children appear in the Vital Records or Church Records of Farmington, but the following list with the dates are taken from Genealogical Dictionary of New England by Savage from a reprint with additions and corrections published in 1969.

Nehemiah Porter of Farmington and his wife Hannah Lum had the following children:

- |     |      |               |    |              |
|-----|------|---------------|----|--------------|
| 9.  | i    | John 3 Porter | b. | 11 Jan. 1688 |
| 10. | ii   | Mary          | b. | 16 Sep. 1689 |
| 11. | iii  | Martha        | b. | 28 Jan. 1693 |
| 12. | iv   | Hannah        | b. | 11 May 1694  |
| 13. | v    | Thomas        | b. | 25 Dec. 1697 |
| 14. | vi   | Jonathan      | b. | 28 Apr. 1700 |
| 15. | vii  | Samuel        | b. | 16 July 1702 |
| 16. | viii | Rachel        | b. | 28 Mar. 1704 |
| 17. | ix   | Matthew       | b. | 1 July 1710  |



9. JOHN 3 PORTER, son of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) Porter was born probably at Kensington Parish, Farmington, Connecticut, on 11 Jan. 1688.

John Porter of Kensington married 3 Dec. 1713 Hannah (Peck) Hopkins widow of Joseph Hopkins. She was the daughter of Paul Peck and Elizabeth Baysey. John was admitted full communion First Church 5 Dec. 1714.

He lived in Farmington Parish after his marriage as all of his four children are found in the birth records of Hartford, and he was living in Kensington when he made his will dated 18 Feb. 1735-6. CHILDREN:

- i Ann 4 Porter b. 9 Dec. 1716 (HTR) bp 12 Sept. 1714 (1st. Ch. Rec)
- ii Abigail b. 15 March 1718-19 (HTR) bp. 17 March 1716-7 (1 Ch Rec.) married Aaron Bronson.
- iii John b. 22 Jan. 1720 (HTR) bp. 24 Jan. 1720-1 (1 Ch Rec)
- iv Jerusha b. 4 Nov. 1723 (HTR) bp 24 Nov. 1723, (1 Ch Rec)

Ref: Records of the Town of Hartford  
Early Hartford Marriages by L. Barbour pg. 461  
New England Historical & Genealogical Register  
 Volume 13, page 49.

Page 353.

Porter, John, Kensington. Invt. £887-11-06. Taken 16 March, 1736, by Isaac Hart and Caleb Galpin. Will dated 18 February, 1735-6.

I, John Porter of Kensington, in the County of Hartford and Colony of Connecticut, do make this my last will and testament: I give to Hannah Porter her dower rights, and also the use of all my real estate until my only son shall come to the age of 21 years. I give to my only son John Porter all my real estate in houseing and lands, and to his heirs and assigns forever, he paying to my eldest daughter Ann Porter £30 in current money of sd. Colony within the space of 3 years after he shall come to be of the age above mentioned, and also £30 in sd. specie to my second daughter Abigail Porter within the space of four years after he shall come to the sd. age, and also £30 in sd. specie to my youngest daughter Jerusha Porter within the space of five years after he shall come to be of the age above mentioned. All the rest of my estate I give to my three daughters above mentioned, to be equally divided among them. And I do hereby appoint my well-beloved wife above named sole executrix.

Witness: *Isaac Lee,*  
*Daniel Hancox, Josiah Hurlbut.*

JOHN PORTER, t.s.

From File:

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN PORTER.

*Know all men by these presents:* That we, Ann Porter, Abigail Brownson and Jerusha Porter, all of Farmington, in ye County of Hartford and Collony of Connecticut, being heirs and equal sharers in the estate of our beloved brother John Porter, late of the parrish of Kensington, in sd. Farmington, deceased, do by these presents, each of us for ourselves and for our heirs, fully and finally agree to divide all ye lands

1732 TO 1737.

PROBATE RECORDS.

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accruing to us from our said brother in manner and form following, that is to say, in ye first place we all agree that the said Ann Porter shall for her share in sd. lands have full nine acres of the west side of the house lot that did belong to our sd. brother, runing throw from ye highway to the river, being eighteen rods in breadth east and west; and also four acars and one-halfe acar of the east end of the lot called ye lot at Two-Mile Brook, runing across sd. lot and buting east and north with highway. And 2nd, we all agree that Abigail Brownson shall for her share of sd. lands have full thirteen acars of the northeast corner of ye above sd. house lott, buting east with highway, west with ye above sd. nine acars sett out to Ann, and north with ye river called Betses' Branch; and also four acars and one-halfe acar of the lot called ye lot at Two-Mile Brook, buting east with ye above described piece of sd. lot sett to Ann Porter, north with highway, and south with Jonathan Edwards. And 3dly, we all agree that the above sd. Jerusha Porter shall for her share in sd. lands have full thirteen acars of the southeast corner of the above described house lot, buting south and east with highways, and north and west with Ann and Abigail's parts of sd. house lot; and also all the rest of the sd. lot at Two-Mile Brook, on each side of the highway that parts ye west end of sd. lot. And now, for a final confirmation of the above written division of the lands accruing to us as heirs to our sd. brother's estate, we have hereunto severally set to our hands and seals the second day of February, and in ye 15th yeare of ye reign of our soueraign lord George the Second, of Great Britaine, etc., King. *Annoqui domini* 1741-2.

Pg. 189.

ANN PORTER (her mark)	LS.
ABIGAIL (her mark) BROWNSON,	LS.
AARON BROWNSON,	LS.
JERUSHA (her mark) PORTER,	LS.

## Endorsement:

At a Court of Probate held at Hartford,  
2nd February, 1741-2: Then Ann Porter,  
Abigail Brownson and Jerusha Porter  
acknowledged their hands and seals.

Test: *Jos: Talcott, Clerk.*

Ordered to be recorded.

Court Record, Page 108 (Vol. XIII) 2 February, 1741-2:  
This agreement was accepted in Court and ordered to be recorded and kept on file. [*It is not found recorded.*]

Ref: Early Connecticut Probate Records, Vol. 3  
By Charles William Manwaring.  
Sent by Mrs. Mildred Smith, Hemet, Cal.



10. MARY 3 PORTER, daughter of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) Porter was born probably at Kensington Parish, Farmington on 16 Sept. 1689. She probably died young as she is not named in her father's will made 23 May 1722.

11. MARTHA 3 PORTER, daughter of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) Porter was born probably at Kensington Parish, Farmington on 28 January 1693. In her brother, Samuel Porter's will dated 28 April 1733 she is called, "Martha Porter, alias Ashman. Evidently she married but nothing more is known of her.

12. HANNAH 3 PORTER, daughter of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) Porter was born probably at Kensington Parish, on 11 May 1694. She was named in her father's will made 23 May 1722 and received her share from his estate. She apparently was married at this time as Nehemiah left "unto my grandson, the son of my Daughter Hannah, I give the young mare I bought of Sergt. Isaac Hart."

Hannah is also named in her brother, Samuel Porter's will made 28 April 1733 and he stated: "I give unto my sister Hannah Porter, alias Castle, 1/6 part of it"

\* 13. THOMAS 3 PORTER, son of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) was born in Kensington Parish, Farmington 25 Dec. 1697. Thomas does not appear in the Farmington Church Records but his birth is recorded in the Farmington Vital Records. His wife's name was Hannah and he died in Middletown, Ct. 16 Dec. 1754. (Middletown Vital Records) More on this family to follow.

14. JONATHAN 3 PORTER, son of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) Porter was born 28 April 1700. He was an executor of his father's estate along with his brother Thomas and he possibly was married at the time his father made his will 23 May 1722, as he had already been given land by his father before the will. The only other information available at this time is found in the Julius Gay Manuscript at the Connecticut Historical Society. According to this material Jonathan died in 1754 and he married Mercy or Marcy Winchil 23 Sept. 1730 (Middletown V.R.) They had four children:

- i Samuel b. 9 Aug. 173
- ii Eldad b. 18 May 1737
- iii Asa b. 15 Sept. 174 (0) -last figure added in pencil by someone-else.
- iv Ruth b. 5 Oct. 1731; d. 28 Oct. 1757 (Middletown V.R.)

15. SAMUEL 3 PORTER, son of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) Porter was born at Kensington 16 July 1702. From his will it appears that Samuel was not married when he made his will on 28 April 1733 and his will probated 1 May 1733 leaves the greatest part of his estate to his six brothers and sisters. A copy of his will follows:

Page 329-30.

\* Porter, Samuel, Kensington. Invt. £155-05-11. Taken 28 April, 1733, by Thomas Hart and Hezekiah Hooker. Will dated 10 March, 1732-3.

I, Samuel Porter of the Parish of Kensington, son of Nehemiah Porter of Farmington deceased, husbandman, give to my well-beloved friend Marcy Hubbard, of sd. Kensington, daughter to Lt. George Hubbard, the full and just sum of £20 money, to be raised out of my real estate. I give unto my brother John Porter 1-6 part of the remainder of my estate. I also give unto my brother Thomas Porter 1-6 part of it. I also give unto my brother Jonathan Porter 1-6 part of it. I also give to my sister Martha Porter, alias Ashman, 1-6 part of it. I give unto my sister Hannah Porter, alias Castle, 1-6 part of it. I also give unto my sister Rachel Porter, alias Harcox, 1-6 part of it. And I appoint my friend, Lt. George Hubbard of Kensington, executor.

Witness: Hezekiah Hooker,  
Amos Porter, Isaac Peck.

SAMUEL PORTER, LS.

Court Record, Page 89—<sup>1 May</sup>28 April, 1733: Will now exhibited by the executor named in the will, who refused the trust, and this Court do grant letters of Adms. unto ~~her~~ him.

Page 4 (Vol. XII) 2 May, 1734: George Hubbard, Adms. with the will annexed, exhibits as debt a legacy of £20 given by will to Mary Hubbard of Kensington, daughter to Lt. George Hubbard. Debts now amount to £62-14-11, and for the payment thereof there is nothing in the Adms. hands.

Page 10—19 September, 1734: Per act of the General Assembly of 9th May, 1734, the Adms. may sell 2 acres of land, with house and orchard thereon, in Kensington.

Page 16—13 December, 1734: Report of the sale of land by the Adms. Sold to Jonathan Porter of Farmington. Nathaniel Winchell, bidder, £48 money.

Page 22 (Vol. XIII, Probate Side): Whereas, Samuel Porter, in his will dated 10 March, 1733, gave to Mercy Hubbard, the daughter of Lt. George Hubbard, £20 money, to be raised out of his real estate if there

should not be enough of the moveables, the sd. George Hubbard in the will was named executor, which trust he refused, when the Prerogative Court for the District of Hartford did appoint him Adms., the moveables were not sufficient to discharge the debts, and of necessity the legacy should be paid out of the real estate to the sd. Mercy, who is now the wife of Daniel Smith of the Parish of Kensington, according to the true intent of the will of the sd. testator, I, George Hubbard, Adms., have set out to sd. Daniel Smith and Mercy his wife, in right of the sd. Mercy, 1-2 of a certain lott of land of which the sd. testator and one Amos Porter, of Middletown, stood seized at the death of sd. testator. The sd. Amos's share or right is now belonging to Jonathan Edwards, about 14 acres more or less. Inventory price, £18-15-00, and is to be accounted at that price in part of sd. legacy.

Witness: Joseph Talcott,  
Jerusha Talcott.

GEORGE HUBBARD, LS.

13 December, 1737.

Test: Joseph Talcott, Jr., Clerk.

Ref: Early Connecticut Probate Records, compiled by Charles William Manwaring. Hartford District (1729-1750) Copyright 1906. Volume 3.

(conclude family in estate action)  
ms.



16. RACHEL 3 PORTER, daughter of Nehemiah and Hannah (Lum) Porter was born at Kensington Parish, Farmington, Hartford Co., Ct. on 28 March 1704. She and her brother Matthew are the only two of Nehemiah's children to be found in the Farmington Church Records. which says Rachel was bp. 12 Jan. 1706/7.

Rachel married Daniel Hancox, son of Thomas and Rachel (Lenerd) Hancox, both of Farmington 4 June 1724 by William Wadsworth, J.P. (Farmington Vital Records)

Daniel was born 1 January 1694/5 (FVR), and he witnessed the will of his brother-in-law John Porter of Kensington Parish, Farmington, Hartford Co., Connecticut dated 18 Feb. 1735/6 and his wife Rachel also received 1/6 part of the estate of her brother Samuel Porter of Kensington by will dated 10 March 1732/3.

Daniel Hancox of Middletown sold two acres more or less with a house on it to Thomas Porter of Kensington, a brother of his wife Rachel, "Reserving unto himself the use and improvements of the northward half of said house and ye porch chamber and ye northward half of said two acres of land during the natural life of his Honored Father, Thomas Hancox."

#### The Hancox Family of Farmington

In the attempt to find our Porter Family we did some research on the Hancox Family. Thomas Hancox of Farmington, Ct. married Rachel Lenerd of Springfield, 17 March 1684/5 and he died 11 July 1734 (FVR)

We do know that Thomas was still alive on 13 day of Feb. 1729/30 when his son Daniel Hancox sold the above mentioned property to Thomas Porter. From the Farmington Vital Records the following children of Thomas and Rachel (Lenerd) Hancox are taken.

- i Thomas b. 13 Mar. 1685/6 Deceased by 15 Oct. 1737 date of his sister Rachel's will
- ii William b. 2 March 1690/1 (perhaps 1 Mar.) His brother Daniel was appointed Administrator of his Estate on 5 Dec. 1721. He had no will and left no wife. His estate was distributed to his brothers and sisters viz; Rachel Hancox, John Hancox, Mabel Barnes and Daniel Hancox. Says William Hancox, late of Farmington (Hartford Probate Records)
- iii Rachel b. 7 Feb. 1692/3. Rachel of Kensington, a single woman made will 15 Oct. 1737 and an inventory of her estate taken 19 Dec. 1737. She names her brothers John Hancox of Springfield, Daniel Hancox of Kensington and only sister Mabel Barnes, wife of Ebenezer Barnes, Sr. of Farmington.
- iv Daniel b. 1 Jan. 1694/5 who married Rachel Porter
- v John b. 1 Aug 1688 (He should be listed as the second child)
- vi Mabel b. 4 Dec. 1698. She probably is the Mabel Barnes who had land set aside to her 7 Dec. 1725 from estate of her brother William Hancox. Mabel Barnes was the wife of Ebenezer Barnes, Sr.

The next three pages contain a copy of the wills of William Hancox and his sister Rachel Hancox, a single woman.



## ESTATE OF WILLIAM HANCOX

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS

That We Daniel Hancox and Wm. Hancox of Farmington are Holden and stand firmly Bound and Obligated unto Joseph Talcott, Esq: Judge of the Court of Probate in the said County: in the Penal Sum of two hundred pounds: Lawful Money of the said Colony to be paid to the said Joseph Talcott, Judge, his certain Attorney, Successors, or Assigns: For the which Payment well and truly to be made, we Bind our Selves, and each of us; our Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and each and every of them, for and in the whole; Firmly by these Presents, Sealed with our Seals. Dated 5th. Day of December in the Eighth Year of His Majesties Reign. Annoqus Domini, 1721

THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION IS SUCH, that if the above Bounded DANIEL HANCOX, Administrator of all, and singular the Goods, Chattels and Credits of Wm. Hancox late of Farmington aforesaid Deceased, Do make or cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all the singular the Goods, Chattels and Credits of said Deceased, which have or shall come to the Hands, Possession or Knowledge of the said Daniel Hancox or into the Hands, or Possession of any other Person or Persons for him and the same so made do Exhibit or cause to be Exhibited into the Registry of said Court of Probate, on or before first Tuesday in January next ensuing; and the same Goods, Chattels and Credits, and all other the Goods, Chattels and Credits of the said Deceased at the time of his Death, which at any time after shall come into the Hands or Possession of the said Administrator or into the Hands or Possession of any other Person or Persons for him. Do well and truly Administer according to Law. And Further Do make or sause to be made a true and just accompt of his Administration, at or before the first Tuesday of December, Annoque Domini, 1722 And all the rest and residue of the said Goods, Chattels and Credits which shall be found remaining upon the said Administration. Accompt ( the fame being first Examined and Allowed by the said Court) shall Deliver and Pay unto such person or persons respectively, as the said Court by their Decree or Sentence pursuant to the true intent and meaning of the Law shall Limit and Appoint. And if it shall hereafter appear, that any Last Will and Testament was made by the said Deceased, and the Executor or Executors therein Named, do Exhibit the same into the said Court, making request to have it Allowed and Approved, if the said Administrator above Bounden being thereunto required, do render and deliver the said Letters of Administration, (approbation of such Testament being first had and made) in the said Court; Then this Obligation to be Void, and of no Effect; or else to remain in full Force, Effect and Virtue.

Signed: Daniel Hancox  
Thomas Hancox

In prosoned of  
Hez. Wyly, Clerk.



## DISTRIBUTION ESTATE William Hancox December 1725

December 28th, 1725, J. Talcott, Esq. Judge  
The within Inventory was Eschibillred by Daniell Hancock,  
Administrator on ye Estate of Wm. Hancock, Deceased and was  
by said court approved and ordered to be resanded and kept  
on file. J. Talcott, Judge.

We the subscribers Thomas Hart and John Root both of the  
Parish of Kensington, and and Township of Farmington in the  
County of Hartford and Colony of Connecticut in New England,  
being appointed by the Court of Probate held at Hartford in  
the aforesaid County Sept. 7, 1725 to distribute and divide  
that Part of the Estate of William Hancox Late of said Farming-  
ton Deceased, which after Payment of debts remains, consisting  
in Housing and Lands to the value of Lb 75 - 15 - 9. Have  
accordingly pursuant to the directions give us by said Court  
distributed and divided it as followeht, viz.

To Rachell Hancox on the South Side of said William Hancox's homestead. One acre & $\frac{1}{2}$ .....	10 - 13 - 9
also a right in the house and barn .....	08 - 05 - 0
To John Hancox next to Rachel's Part of said Homestead. one acre & $\frac{3}{4}$ .....	10 - 13 - 9
Also a right in the house and barn .....	08 - 05 - 0
To Mabell Barns next John's Part of said Homestead two acres and two rods and about $\frac{3}{4}$ rod..	10 - 13 - 9
also a right in the house and barn .....	08 - 05 - 0
To Daniel Hancox next to Mabel's Part in said Homestead Two acres, one Rood and 2 rods and $\frac{1}{2}$ .....	10 - 13 - 9
Also a right in the House and Barn .....	08 - 05 - 0
	<hr/> 75 - 15 - 0

It is to be understood that the Three first mentioned  
Parts of said Homestead are to be as wide at the East  
End of them as at the West.

Witnesses our Hands this 7th. Day of December Anno Dom 1725

Thomas Hart  
John Root

\* \* \* \* \*

NOTE: The underscored word in the second line is Exhibited.

HANCOX, RACHEL, single woman, Kensington. Invt. b 414-07-10.  
Taken 19 Dec. 1737, by John Norton, Samuel Lancton and Daniel  
Hancox. Will dated 15 October 1737.

I, Rachel Hancox of Kensington, in the county of Hartford, do make and ordain this my last will and testament: I give to my well-beloved brothers, John Hancox of Springfield and Daniel Hancox of the aforesd. Kensington, and to my only sister Mabel Barnes, the wife of Ebenezer Barnes, Sen. of Farmington, their heirs and assigns forever, all my personal and moveable estate that shall remain after my debts and funeral charges are paid, to be equally divided amongst them. All my real estate, lands Tenements and hereditaments, I give to my friends, Mr. John Hooker and William Burnham, Jr., both of Kensington, to their heirs and assigns forever, whom I now appoint executors. And my will and desire is that my executors should sell or otherwise dispose of the whole or any part of sd. real estate so as to pay to my sister above named the value of £100 in such bills of public credit as have commonly passed and been current in this Colony, and that the payment thereof should be made either in land or in bills of credit aforesd., as my sd.(said) executors shall think best, within one year after my decease. And if any of my real estate remain after sd. payment, and after my executors are recompensed for their necessary charge and trouble about my estate, that they should sell or otherwise dispose of the whole remainder for the relief of poor persons either in Kensington aforesd. or elsewhere, and distribute it to sd. poor persons according to their discretion.

Witness:

William Burnham  
Isaac Norton  
Isaac Hart

Rachel Hancox, LS.

(Note : the will of Samuel Porter of Kensington on Page 97, Volume 3, mentions Rachel Porter, alias Hancox. - Mildred Smith, Hemet, California. August 8, 1980)

Ref: Early Connecticut Probate Records, Volume III, Page 280  
Compiled by Charles William Manwaring.

Daniel and Rachel (Porter) Hancox were the parents of six children according to his will which follows:

- i Amy born 25 March 1724, deceased by the date of her father's will dated \_\_\_Nov. 1757. "gives to heirs of eldest daughter Amia Pot\_\_\_(last of word gone.
- ii Rede b. 10 June 1727 (FVR) written in pencil after "Perle". In father's will called Pedo Beckly wife of Joseph Beckley. Alive at division of father's land 9 Feb. 1762
- iii Jonathan b. 11 March 1730/1 (FVR) Deceased by Nov 1757, date of Father's will. "give to heirs of my son Jonathan Hancox late deceased".



- iv Mary b. 17 Jan. 1732/3. (FVR) Deceased by Nov. 1757 date of father's will. "give to lawful heirs of my daughter Mary Beebe."
- v Anable Andrus named as daughter in father's will. She inherited land and signed as Anne Andrus wife of Hezekiah Andrus.
- vi Tabitha Hancox - named in father's will. She received land of father's estate.

The following is a copy of the will of Daniel Hancox, which in the middle part is almost totally illegible. There were blobs on the sides and in the middle of the original which looks like rubber cement had been applied. With a magnifying glass have copied it to the best of my ability.

TRANSCRIPT OF LAST WILL OF DANIEL HANCOX, Town of Canaan, Probate District Sharon, Litchfield County, Connecticut.

The last will and testament of Daniel Hancox ye name of God Amen. I Daniel Hancox of Canan in Litchfield County in Connecticut having the free grip of my natural powers, do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say, first of all I comit my spirit into the Hands of God and order my body to be decently buried and ye charges of my funeral, with all my just debts to be paid out of my estate.

ITEM. I give to my well beloved wife Rachel Hancox one third part of my personal estate to be at her disposal entire, and the use and benefit of all my improved lands with ye buildings upon them, which are now my \_\_\_sen estate, to be improved by her as long as she shall continue my widow, and upon her marriage to another and \_\_\_se to return, to those to whom I shall assign them hereafter and I give to the children, heirs of my son Jonathan Hancox late deceased, five shillings to each of them, based what have already assigned to them.

\_\_\_is given \_\_\_heirs of my Eldest Daughter Amia Pot\_\_\_ to be divided equally amongst them and \_\_\_not to what she has already received.

Finally I give to the lawful heirs of my daughter Mary Beebe late deceased, five shillings to be equity divided among them besides what she has already received and to the eldest of them named Betty (?Batty) Beebe, I give five pounds, and that this and all above granted legacies be paid to ye above named legatees upon their arrival at their respective lawful ages.

Item I give to my youngest daughter Tabatha Hancox the sume of fourteen pounds, which will make her equal to what her sisters have already received.

Finally I give and order that all the remainder of my estate both personal and real which is not here to fore disposed of by me be equally divided between my three daughters, viz, Pede Beckly, Anable Andrus and Tabatha Hancox, that they or their lawful heirs may have an equal share remaining \_\_\_ for their own benefit and improvements and I appoint my beloved wife Rachel Hancox to be executor of this my last will and



testament. Finally I Daniel Hancox make and ordain this my last will and testament and do hereby revoke and disanull all other wills and testaments made by me.

Made and ordained this on \_\_\_\_\_ of No ember A.D. 1757.  
Signed sealed and confirmed and returned to his last will and testament.

David Wright miner .  
Jonathan Belding

C. Daniel Hancox

These may certifice ye Hon<sup>(ble)</sup> Judge of ye Court of Probates for Sharon District of ye above named Daniel Farrand- and Jonathan Belding personally appeared and made oath and they saw the testator sign his name to the foregoing will and then they signed their names as evidence to said in ye presence of each other before me 7 Sept. A. D. 1761.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Justice of Peace.

We the subscribers being heirs to ye Estate of our Hon<sup>d</sup>, Father Daniel Hancox of Canaan in Litchfield deceased have on this twenty ninth Day of January 1762 mutually agreed to divid the estate given to us by the last will and testement in ye following manner.

First to Joseph Beckley and Pede his wife, Seventeen acres and three quarters on ye North side of ye home lot.

Then set of to Tabatha Hancox eight acres and a half on ye south side of ye home lot which contains ye whole of said home lot, then set of to Tabatha in an intervail lot four acres and sixty nine rods of Land bounded North on ye Highway, east on ye heirs of Jonathan Hancoxs Land, south on Jeremiah Andrus land, west on land that is set to my brother Hezekiah Andrus and his wife,

Then set to Hezekiah Andrus and Anne his wife Eleven acres and one hundred and six rods of land that lyeth East on ye Heirs of Benjamin Kellogg, South on Jeremiah Andrus, West on land set off to Tabatha Hancox, North in part on ye highway and north in part on Elijah Griswouds land.

Then set off to Tabatha Hancox foure acres and fifty four rods bounded East on ye above said Andrus Land, South on Jeremiah Andrus land, west on ye Heirs of Jonathan Hancoxes land, North in part or whole on ye Highway.

The above division is what each of us agree unto as witness our hands

Signed:

Sharon Feb. 9th, 1762 then personally appeared before the Prob Court for Sharon District Joseph Beckly signor and sealer to the above written agreement and acknowledged the same to be his free act and deed -

Joseph Beckly  
Pede Beckly  
Hezekiah Andrus  
Anne Andrus  
Tabitha Hancox

Test Cotton Math. Smith. Probate Clerk.

17. MATTHEW 3 PORTER, son of Nehemiah Porter and his wife Hannah Lum was born at Kensington 1 July 1710. (Savage) bp. 2. Oct. 1709 (Farmington Ch. Rec.) Evidently died young as he was not named in his father's will 23 May 1722.



13. THOMAS 3 PORTER, son of Nehemiah 2 Porter and his wife Hannah Lum, was born in Kensington Parish, Farmington 25 December 1697. Thomas is not found in the Farmington Church Records however his birth is recorded in the Farmington Vital Records. His wife's name was Hannah and her ancestry is unknown. When their children born in Middletown in the vital records they are called the children of Thomas and Hannah Porter. Whether he married at Kensington or in Middletown is unknown. Thomas's death is recorded in Middletown Vital Records as 16 Dec. 1754, where he is called Thomas Porter, Sr.

Thomas Porter inherited fourteen and one-half acres of land when his father died. These were described as follows:  
4 acers and  $3/4$  of Land in ye great Lott next Middle tonne (Middletown) bounds

6 acres of Land in ye home lot lying between Thomas Jonathan Porter and Samuel Porter on ye north side of River running cross ye lot east and west.

3 acres &  $3/4$  in ye said lott butting north on same and south of ye river.

Thomas inherited a total of 61 pounds, 10 shillings and one pence from his father's estate, which included the above parcels of land. He and his brother Jonathan were the Executors of their father's estate, which was settled in March of 1723.

Thomas Porter remained in Kensington Parish until he purchased of Daniel Hancox, his brother-in-law and husband of his sister Rachel, a parcel of land in Middletown, consisting of two acres with a house. This deed was signed on 13 February 1729/30 and reads as follows on the following page.

Little is known about Thomas Porter and his family at Middletown. I have written for all deeds of Thomas Porter but the Clerk refuses to go back in the records and copy deeds. However, Mrs. Helen Ransom made a trip to Middletown and did bring back copies of two deeds. The deed on the next page and a deed when William Porter, son of the above Thomas sold the same parcel of land to his brother Thomas. There does not appear to be any will for Thomas Porter either.

The Middletown Vital Records contain no mention of this family except the death of Thomas Porter, Sr. and the birth of the following children:

18. William, son of Thomas & Hannah b. 17 Mar. 1731

19. Thomas, son of Thomas & Hannah b. 15 Nov. 1732

We know absolutely nothing about this Thomas except that on 26 July 1760 his brother William sold his interest in the land purchased by his father Thomas Porter from Daniel Hancox.

Thomas' wife Hannah was still alive when her son William died in 1774 for in his will we find this item; "And as to my Honored Mother it is my Will that my wife together with my Two oldest sons, viz, Elishama and John shall maintain her honorably during her natural life."



Land Record Middletown, Hartford County, Conn. Volume 4, page 355

Know all men by these presents that I Daniel Hancox of Middletown in the county of Hartford in ye colony of Conecticut in New England for ye consideration of a valluable sume of mony received of Thomas Porter of the parish called Kensington in ye township of farmington; and in ye county and colony aforesaid where with I do acknowldg myself fully satisfied consented and pay<sup>d</sup> and other good and lawful reasons me hereunto moveing. Do Give, Grant, Warrant Sell and confirm unto him ye afore named Thomas Porter his heirs and assigns forever; one certain piece or percell Land situated with in the bounds of the aforesaid Middletown. Near the northwest corner of said township, which said piece of land contains by estimation two acres be the same more or less; with an house there upon and the above mentioned Land is bounded Eastward with the Road or highway leading from Weathersfield to Wallingford, North with a highway and West and South with Land belonging to Caleb Galpen: to have and to hold the above siad house and Land to himself the said Thomas Porter his heirs or assigns for ever, together with all fruts profits priviledges and advantage to the same belongin; or in any wise appertaining, free and clear of and from all incumberances of title what so ever, and moreover I the said Daniel Hancox do hereby assure and promise unto the said Thomas Porter in Manner following that is to say that I the said Daniel Hancox at the time of the sealing and delivery of these presents am seized of the above said house and land in my own right. In fee simple and have full power good right and lawful authority to Give Grant and alienate the same and the said Thomas Porter, his heirs, executors administrators or assigns shall or may peaceably and quickly have had occupie and possess the same to his or their own proper use and behoof forever; without the molestation disturbance or denial of me the said Daniel Hancox or any other person or persons lawfully claiming any estate or title in or to the same from by or senden me, always provided and it is hereby proved that I the said Daniel Hancox do RESERVE UNTO MY SELF THE USE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE NORTHWARD HALF OF SAID HOUSE AND YE PORCH CHAMBER AND YE NORTHWARD HALF OF THE SAID TWO ACRES OF LAND, DURING THE NATURAL LIFE OF MY HONORED FATHER, THOMAS HANCOX: YET ALLOWING TO THE said Thomas Porter convenient passage from the highway to the said house and round about it as he shall have occasion: In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 13 day of February. anno dom 1729/30: and in the third year of his Majesties Reign.

Daniel Hancox (SEAL)

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of  
Caleb Galpen ) Wethersfield Febery 20, 1729/30 (as written)  
Elizabeth Galpen )

Daniel Hancockes of Cenentsn in Middleton then parsonaly appeared before me and acknowledged the within ritened to be his free act and deed.

Joshea Robins Justice of Peace.

True Record of ye Deed  
December 20, 1730.  
K Joseph Rockwilll Regist<sup>r</sup>

\* \* \* \* \*




MIDDLETOWN LAND RECORDS

Volume 4, Page 355

Daniel Hancox of Middletown, Ct. to Thomas Porter  
of Kensington Parish. February 20, 1729/30  
13

Know all men by these presents that I Daniel Hancox of Middletown in the County  
of Hartford in the Colony of Connecticut in New England for & Consideration of a valuable  
sume of Money Received of Thomas Porter of the parish Called Kensington in the Township  
of Farmington: and in the County and Colony aforesaid Wherewith I do acknowledge my-  
self fully satisfied Contented and paye and other good and Lawfull Reasons me hereunto  
movinge Do Give Grant Bargain sell & Confirm unto him & aforesaid Thomas  
Porter his Heirs & assigns for ever one Certain piece or parcel Land situate with  
in the bounds of the aforesaid Middletown. Near the north west Corner of said  
Township. which said piece of Land Contains by Estimation two acres bethe same  
more or less: with an House there upon and the above mentioned Land is bounded  
Southward with the Road or highway. Leading from Weatherfield to Wallingford North  
with a highway & west & south. with Land belonging to Caleb Galpen: to have and  
to hold the above said House and Land to himself the said Thomas Porter his Heirs  
or assigns for ever; together with all fruits profits priviledges and advantages. to  
the same belonging; or in any wise appertaining. free and Clear of & from all Incum-  
brances of title what so ever, and Moreover I the said Daniel Hancox do here by  
curre and promise unto the said Thomas Porter in manner following that is to say  
that I the said Daniel Hancox at the time of the sealing and delivery of these presents  
am seized of the above said House and Land in my own Right. In fee simple and  
have full power Good Right. and Lawfull authority to Give Grant and alienate the  
same and the said Thomas Porter his Heirs Executors administrators or assigns  
shall or may peaceably and Quietly have hold occupie and possist the same to his  
their own proper use and behoof for ever; without the molestacion disturbance  
or denial of me the said Daniel Hancox or any other person or persons Lawfully Claim-  
ing any Estate or title in or to the same from by or under me. always provided  
and it is hereby provided that if the said Daniel Hancox do reserve unto my  
self the use and Improvement of the Northward half of said House & porch  
Chamber: and of Northward half of the said two acres of Land. During the Natural  
life of my Honored father Thomas Hancox; yet allowing to the said Thomas  
Porter convenient Passage from the highway to the said House and Round about  
it as he shall have occasion: In Witness Whereof I have here unto set my hand &  
seal this 13<sup>th</sup> Day of February. anno Dom. 1729/30: and in the third year of his  
Majesties Reign

Daniel Hancox: 

and sealed & delivered in presence of

Caleb Galpen }  
Joshua Galpen }  
true Record of & Deed:  
made the 20<sup>th</sup> 1730  
Joseph Rockwell Register

Witnessed february: 20: 1729/30  
Daniel Hancox of Connecticut in Middletown then personally  
appeared before me and acknowledged the within intended to be  
his free act and deed. Joshua Robins Justice of peace



18. WILLIAM 4 PORTER, son of Thomas and his wife Hannah was born at Middletown, Ct. 17 March 1731, and died at Town of Hartland, believed to be in the Hamlet of Hartland, Litchfield Co., Conn. 13 June 1774. His wife was Ruth but her ancestry is unknown.

The earliest mention of William is found in the Hartland First Congregational Church Records 1768-1913, when they first organized their church. William Porter and his wife Ruth were original church members when the church was organized May 1, 1768. In the same list is marked "William and Ruth Porter o. c. May 1, 1768." "owned the covenant" This o.c. I am told meant they were really dedicated to the church.

On 4 May 1780 a new church was formed called the West Hartland Congregational Church, because it was so far for some people to go to church. This church remained a viable church until 1890. In this church record we find more of the Porter family. William's wife Ruth is listed as a member on 9 Jan. 1782 and it says she died a widow 10 March 1788.

Most of the information we have been able to find on the children of William and Ruth are found in these two church records.

The first land which William purchased in Hartland was 20 acres of land which he bought from Simon Baxter of Hartland on 12 July 1759, calling him "William Porter "late of Middletown" a part of lot 47 which Baxter had purchased from Moses Cadwell.

William Porter purchased a total of 10 parcels of land in Hartland as follows

1. 20 acres	12 July 1759	Proprietors Rec., p. 138
2. 3 "	9 July 1761	Vol. 1, page 31
3. 25 "	26 Aug. 1767	Vol. 1, page 186
4. 38 "	28 Sept 1769	Vol. 1, page 295
5. 35 3/4 A.	22 Dec. 1769	Vol. 1, page 212
6. 45 more or less	16 Jan. 1770	Vol. 1, page 296
7. 107 1/4 acre	14 Feb. 1772	Vol. 1, page 346
8. ? not given	11 Jul. 1772	Vol. 1, page 326
9. 25 acres	10 Aug. 1772	Vol. 1, page 318
10. 28 more or less	23 Nov. 1773	Vol. 1, page 381
327 acres plus one extra parcel.		

William Porter sold a total of 7 parcels of land in Hartland before his death on 13 June 1774 as follows:

1. 23 acres	11 April 1769	Vol. 1, pg. 189 #1 & 2 above.
2. 25 "	4 Feb. 1771	Vol. 1, pg. 277 #3
3. ? "	26 Nov. 1772	Vol. 1, pg. 341
4. 53 1/2 acre	11 Mar. 1773	Vol. 1, pg. 352
5. 28 acres	23 Nov. 1773	Vol. 1, pg. 378
6. 25 acres	7 Oct. 1773	Vol. 1, pg. 467 -
7. ? acres	13 Apr. 1773	Vol. 1, pg. 473
154 acres more or less plus two parcels.		

The proof that William Porter was the son of Thomas and Hannah Porter of Middletown is found in the following deed, dated 26 July 1760 when William Porter of Hartland sold to "my brother Thomas Porter of Middletown" for the sum of fifteen pounds all interest he had in a piece of property in Middletown. The description of this property is the same as the property Thomas Porter of Kensington Parish, Farmington purchased of Daniel Hancox on the 13 day of February 1729/30, in Middletown.



Land Record Middletown, Hartford Co., Connecticut Vol. 14, Page 400

To all people to whom the presents shall come Greetings: Know ye that I William Porter of said Town of Hartland in ye Countie of Litchfield, and Colony of Connecticut in New England, for ye consideration of fifteen pounds money received of my brother Thomas Porter of Middletown in ye County of Hartford and Colony of Connecticut to which is to my full satisfaction. Do give, grant sell convey and quit all ye right title claim and interest I ever had now have, or in times to come right have had to or in one certain lot of land lying and being within ye township of Middletown, and near ye Norwest corner of said township, Together with my right and interest in ye Dwelling House and all ye buildings standing on said lott, unto him ye said Thomas Porter and to his heirs and assigns forever, and ye whole of said Lott as it lyeth undivided with ye rest of ye proprietors in said Lott in said lott is butted East and North on Highways, and sond South on Pet Galpen, and West on Amos Galpen and containing in ye whole Lott, two acres be ye same more or less. To Have and to Hold ye above granted and quited premisses unto him ye said Thomas Porter, and to his heirs and assigns forever, to his and their own proper use and behoof, and I ye said William Porter. Do hereby assure him ye said Thomas Porter that I have good right to pass over and quit ye above granted premisses manner and for as above written, and also I ye said William Porter do by these presents bind my self and my Heirs to him ye said Thomas Porter and his heirs and assigns never hereafter to recholing or claim ye above granted and quited premisses, and in witness as here of I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this 26th. day of July in ye 34th. year of ye Reign of our Sovereign Lord George ye said of Great Britain & o King A.D. 1760 Signed, Sealed and Delivered in presents of

John Hooker  
Elijah Hooker

William Porter (Seal)  
Hartford County July ye 26th. Day at 1760, then William Porter that executed ye foregoing instrument personally appeared and acknowledged ye same to be his free act and deed before me John Hooker Justice Peace.

\* \* \* \* \*

# THE WILL OF WILLIAM PORTER, deceased of HARTLAND, Ct.

On the 2nd. day of May 1774 William Porter made his will which reads as follows:

"In the Name of God Amen --- I, William Porter of Hartland being very sick and weak in body, but of perfect mind and Memory, Thanks be given unto God calling unto Mind the Mortality of my Body, and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die---Do make and ordain first of all.

I give and recommand my soul, into the Hands of God that gave it, and my Body, I recommend to the Earth to be buried in decent Christian burial nothing doubting, but at the general Resurrection I shall receive the flame again by the Power of God and as touching such worldly Estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life, I give devise and dispose of the same in the following Manner: IMPRIMIS



FIRST I do give and bequeath to Ruth my dearly and beloved wife one Third of the Improvement of my real Estate that lyeth West of the River and one cow.

ITEM: I give to my well beloved son Elishama one-third of this my lands lying west of the River and Ten acres of the Lot that I bought of Joseph and Wm. Cooley, East of the River cutting west on the River, this First Third-Part given to my son Elishama lyeth upon the south of my Land, that lyeth west of the River.

ITEM: I give to my well beloved son John one-third part of my lands that lyeth West of the River upon the North side of my lot. My will further is that my sons Elishama and John should cover the fraim that is erected for a dwelling house by boarding and shingling of roof, Planking the Sides and laying the under floors and house in one year after the Date of this my Will, and if my Sons above named do not, do their equal proportion of finishing said Fraim, so far as is above proposed they shall pay to their Hon<sup>rd</sup>. Mother Ten pounds of lawful money each, Provided netherless that they shall have all the Boards, Nails, Shingles and other stuff that is prepared for covering said frame.

ITEM: I give to my well beloved son Thomas Porter thirty acres of Land on the East End of my lot.

ITEM: I give to my well beloved Daughters, Hannah, Abigail, Ruth, Rachel and Electa the remainder of my lands that I have not given away by Will that lyeth the East side of the River, to be equally divided amonth them: But if my sons Elishama or John pay to my daughters before named Five pounds Ten Shillings Lawful Money each daughter within two Years after they arrive to the Age of Eighteen Years old then they shall have each Daughters Land that I gave them by this Will.

I further give and bequeath to my well beloved wife all my Household Goods except my Wearing Apanel.

And I further give to my sons Elishama and John all my moveable Estate and wearing Apanel except what I have before given to their Honored Mother and further I give Elishama and John all the grain on the ground this year except so much, as for the Support of my Family this year. And furthermore I give Elishama one-half of the House that he and John is to cover, and the whole of said house and one-half of his mothers third after her Death upon the South side, and I give John the other half of his mothers third after her death.

And I give Elishama the Use of one-third of the Barn Five Years, and my Wife one-third during her life.

And as to my Honored Mother it is my Will that my wife together with my Two oldest sons viz, Elishama and John shall maintain her honorably during natural life.

And my will further is that my sons Elishama and John should pay all my debts and Funeral Charges, and furthermore I appoint Ruth my wife Exectorix and Elishama Executor to this my Last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof I do hereunto set my Hand and Seal Dated at Hartland this 21st. Day of May in the Year of our Lord 1774. Signed Sealed in the Presence of us who is his Presence and in the presence of Each other and have subscribed our names. Samuel Phelps

Remembrance Sheldon  
Phineas Kingsbury

*William Gordon*



Litchfield County SS Hartland July the 2nd. A.D. 1774

Then personally appeared Samuel Phelps, Remembrance Sheldon and Phineas Kingsbury before me the said subscriber and made Solomn Oath that they see the within named William Porter Testator of this will sign and seal the same: and declare the same to be his last Will and Testament: and they took him to be sound in mind and memory and that they did in the Presence of Said Testator, and in the Presence of each of other Witness the said Will this they declare to be the Truth. Last Nehemiah Andrus, Justice of Peace.

\* \* \* \* \*

At a Court of Probate held in Simsbury in and for the District of Simsbury upon the 8th. Day of August, Anno Domini 1774. Prsent John Cwan, Judge.

Elishama Porter of Hartland in said district one of the Executors of the Last Will and Testament of William Porter late of said Hartland deceased appeared and exhibited the last will of the said deceased and moved to said Court that said Will be proved and this Court having considered the same do prove and approve Said Will and order it to be recorded and Kept on File ---at the same time and said Executor accepted of Trust of Executorship to said Will; the other Executrix being absent---And now also the said Elishama Porter as aforsaid."

This will of William Porter including an Inventory of the Estate of William Porter is on file at Probate Court District of Simsbury, P.O. Box 454, Simsbury, Ct. 06107. The original will is found at the Connecticut State Library and was copied by Mrs. Helen Ransom, 33 Sunrise Hill, West Hartford, Ct. 06107.



## AN INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM PORTER Decd. Pg 171

Aforsaid exhibited in Inventory of the Estate of the said William Porter dec<sup>d</sup> & made oath to ye same in manner accustomed and said inventory is accepted and ordered to be recorded and kept on file. .... which is as follows.....

	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Shillings</u>	<u>Pence</u>
A Riding Horse .....	13	- 7	- 0
A saddle .....	1	- 2	- 0
Saddle Bags .....	0	- 4	- 0
Bridle.....	0	- 1	- 6
Great Coat .....	1	- 5	- 0
Strait Bodied Coat .....	0	- 8	- 0
Waist Coat .....	0	- 5	- 0
Breeches .....	0	- 17	- 0
Knee - Buckles .....	0	- 0	- 6
Black Waist Coat .	0	- 0	- 9
Neck - Teth <sup>ace</sup> .....	0	- 0	- 9
2 Woollen Shirts .....	0	- 4	- 0
Hat.....	0	- 15	- 0
1 Pair of Stockings .....	0	- 2	- 6
1 Pair of Shoes .....	0	- 2	- 0
5 1/2 yards of Karsey at 5/0 pence.....	1	- 7	- 6
7 Chairs at 6 per Chair .....	0	- 3	- 6
Half Pair of Hatchels .....	0	- 2	- 6
Flax Hatchel .....	0	- 0	- 6
Largest Pot .....	0	- 4	- 6
Smallest Pot .....	0	- 2	- 0
Tea Kettle .....	0	- 5	- 0
1 great Iron Kettle with Bale .....	0	- 18	- 0
1 great Do. (Iron Kettle) with bale .....	0	- 16	- 0
Small Kettle 10 oz .....	0	- 1	- 6
Small Draught Chain 8:14 .....	0	- 6	- 0
Log Chain 13 lb.....	0	- 15	- 6
2 Pieces of Draught Chain .....	0	- 2	- 0
2 Beetle Rings .....	0	- 1	- 0
2 Iron Wedges .....	0	- 4	- 0
9 Drag teeth .....	0	- 10	- 0
1 old Narrow Ax .....	0	- 1	- 9
Hatchet .....	0	- 1	- 6
Post Ax .....	0	- 2	- 0
Old Adds .....	0	- 1	- 0
Augre .....	0	- 3	- 6
Slice .....	0	- 1	- 6
1 Pair of Tongs .....	0	- 1	- 9
1 Do. (Pair of Tongs) .....	0	- 1	- 3
Clevy & Pin .....	0	- 1	- 6
A Sythe .....	0	- 3	- 0
2 Sythe Tackling .....	0	- 3	- 0
	24	- 6	- 3

continued



	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Shillings</u>	<u>Pence</u>
Old Iron 22 lb. ....	0	3	8
2 Sickels .....	0	2	6
Steel - Traps .....	0	4	0
Brast Bitt.....	0	1	0
Frying Pans .....	0	1	6
Horse Chains .....	0	3	0
Stillyards .....	0	3	6
Old Iron 10 lb. ....	0	1	8
Yoke Irons .....	0	3	6
Tramil .....	0	3	0
2 gruat Spinning Wheels & Spindles at 3/ per.	0	6	0
2 Dutch Wheels at 4/ per .....	0	8	0
Case - Drawers .....	0	16	0
Large round Table .....	0	5	0
Small Table .....	0	0	9
3 Old chests 0/6 per piece .....	0	1	6
4 Casks at 6d per piece .....	0	2	0
Powering Tub .....	0	0	9
Lanthorn .....	0	2	6
A book Young Mans Comp: .....	0	2	6
1 Old Do. (Young Mans Comp:) .....	0	1	0
2 Small Quart Basons .....	0	2	0
Large Pewter Plater .....	0	4	0
1 Deep Pewter Plater .....	0	3	6
Old Pewter 16 lb. ....	0	13	4
5 Pewter Plates .....	0	12	6
4 Baggs .....	0	4	0
1 Quilling Wheel .....	0	3	0
A Reed of 40 .....	0	5	0
One Do (same) of 30 .....	0	4	0
Pitch Fork .....	0	1	4
Broad Ax .....	0	2	0
Bed Bedding .....	1	5	6
One Do (same) .....	2	3	0
One More Do .....	1	7	6
1 Bed Cord .....	0	2	6
3 Pillows .....	0	3	0
2 1/2 yards of Sow Cloth .....	0	3	9
Beer or Beaser Barrcl .....	0	2	0
2 Pails .....	0	2	0
2 Marshing Tub .....	0	4	0
5 Eathorn Plates .....	0	1	8
100 Feet of Wooden Ware .....	0	15	0
Valances .....	0	5	0

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13 - 4 - 11

Continued



Page 172

	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Shillings</u>	<u>Pence</u>
4 lb Flax .....	0	- 2	- 0
7 Swine .....	5	- 19	- 0
1 Brindle Cow .....	3	- 16	- 0
Red Three Year old Cow .....	2	- 18	- 0
Yolk of 2 year old Stears .....	6	- 15	- 0
Speckled 2 year old Haifer .....	2	- 10	- 0
2 Sheep .....	0	- 8	- 0
Dwelling House .....	30	- 0	- 0
Barn .....	16	- 0	- 0
165 Acres of Land 32/per .....	310	- 0	- 0

Total	378	- 6	- 0
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A Shave .....	0	- 2	- 0
Irow or Frow .....	0	- 2	- 0
A Brush Sythe .....	0	- 3	- 0
A note against Asa Smith that is due	5	- 17	- 0
A note against David Hawks good for nothing .	1	- 0	- 0
An Execution against Joseph Gilbert in Labor of Joseph Peas	3	- 11	- 9
	10	- 15	- 9

Asa Smith	} Appraisers under Oath
Cornelius Merry	
John Bates	

\*\*\*\*\*

This inventory is not totaled in a final form. Below is the totals carried forward which should be the totals of William Porter Deceased.

Total from Page 32 .....	24	- 6	- 3
Total from Page 33 .....	13	- 4	- 11
Total from Page 34 - top of page .....	378	- 6	- 0
Total from Page 34 - below .....	10	- 15	- 9
Total Inventory Value .....	426	- 12	- 11

About right if I figured it correctly:

12 pence equals 1 shilling

20 shillings equal 1 pound



October 2, 1980

Dear Paula,

Here, in essence, is what I received of deeds of William Porter from Hartland:

- Proprietors Records, p.138 - 12 July 1759. Simon Baxter of Hartland sold his right to William Porter "late of Middletown"; lot 47 (a part), 20 acres in Hartland which Baxter bought of Moses Cadwell; Wit.: Joseph Wilcockson & Thomas Porter. Simon Baxter personally appeared in Symsbury; recorded 13 July 1759 by Jos. Talcott, Proprietors Clerk. 200  
p. 12?
- (Paid 26 Pounds, 6 shillings)
- Vol.1 p.31 (Lot 47); W.P. of Hartland buys of Moses Cadwell of H. 9 June 1761; Moses personally appeared in Simsbury. 3 acres East side of River. Bnds: S. land of W.P., E. part on land of heirs of John Day & part of Highway, leaving 2 rods on N. side parallel with said lot to give Cadwell passage from his house to h'wy, N. Cadwell's land and W. Cadwell's land. (Paid 6 pounds)
- Vol.1, p.186 from Eleazer Hills of H., 26 Aug.1767, 25a. near the NE corner of H. Begins E. on Abner Waters, N. on the province line, s. on John Pettibone and extends W. "so far as to make up the full quantity of 25 acres". 212-8  
Wit.: Judah Holcomb, J.P., Penelope Holcomb, in Simsbury (no lot number given) (Paid 20 pounds)
- Vol.1, p.295 from Asahel Branard(sic) of H., 28 Sept.1769 (recorded Jan.20, 1772). 1/3 part of a lot which Branard owns in with W.P. (making total of whole lot to W.P.) 541  
Bnd: E. on River, W. on 3rd Division, N. on lot laid out to heirs of Timothy Seymour dec'd, S. on land of Isaac Goodwin, being 38a., more or less, & is part of a River Lot so called in the 1st Div. in the H. township.  
Wit.: Hezekiah Holcomb & Nehemiah Andrews. (Pd 13 Pounds)
- Vol.1, p.212 fr. Isaac Goodwin of Torrington, 22 Dec.1769, lot lately purchased of Jehiel Baldwin, 35 and 3/4a. being the 20th lot originally laid out to Benjamin Hill in the 1st. Div. Bnd. E. on 2nd Div. lots, W. on 3rd Div. lots, N. on land of W.P., S. on land of Joseph Cowls with land left for h'wy across the said privilege. 454  
Wit.: Epaphras Sheldon and E.P., Jr. (Paid 15 pounds)
- Vol.1, p.296 from James Easton of Pittsfield, Ma., 16 Jan.1770; land in the 1st Div., 45a. more or less, "with appurtenances thereof" (a house?). Wit.: Benjamin Hutchins & Ruth Hutchens. 542  
(Paid 15 pounds)

Vol.1, p.318 fr. "Decon" Luke Hitchcock of Granville, Ma.  
10 Aug. 1772, 25a. Bnd. N. on Colony line, E. on land of  
Lot 24. heirs of Abner Warters dec'd, S. on Pettibone land, W. on  
land of Ezekiel Kellogg. Said land deeded to Hitchcock by  
William Williams. Wit.: Timot<sup>t</sup> Robison & Aron Curtiss  
(Paid 25 pounds)

Vol.1, p.326 from Jeams Easton of Pittsfield, 11 July, 1772,  
land obtained of the heirs of Timothy Seymour of Hartford.  
Lot 22. (land not described). Wit.: Nehemiah Andrews, Jr. & Sam<sup>l</sup> Andrews.  
(Paid 1 pound)

Vol.1, p.346 fr. Nathan Hatch of H. 14 Feb. 1772 a lot in 5th  
Div. which was laid out to Joseph & Timothy Cowls. Bnd. E. on  
land of Hon. Joseph Talcott, N., W.P., W. on the 3rd Div., S.  
on Ephesus Sheldon - 107 $\frac{1}{2}$  a. more or less.  
Wit.: Joseph (Perkins?) & Ambrose Andrews. (Paid 64 pounds, 5 shillings)

Vol.1, 381 fr. William Woodford of Farmington 23 Nov. 1773,  
28a., more or less; Bnd. Beg. at SE corner ruhning 15 rods  
N. "being a part of a lot laid out to Joseph Mather, turn-  
ing Westerly to the River, running the same width to the  
River, S. by River to W.P.'s land. (no lot number)  
Wit.: Nehemiah Andrews & Asa Andrews. (Paid 10 pounds)

Vol.1, p.189 W.P. sells to Sterling (Graves?) of Hartland  
11 Apr. 1769 20a. which I bought of Simon Baxter. Bnd. S.  
lands of heirs of Eben- Wells dec'd, E. land of Benjamin  
Lot 47. (Harkins?) and partly on land of heirs of John Day dec'd,  
N. on my land & partly on land of Asahel Brainard, W. on  
land of heirs of Gov. Talcott dec'd and also 3 acres more  
adjoining the above piece, E. on lands of heirs of Capt.  
John Day dec'd & in part on the h'wy leaving 2 rods on the  
North running parallel with the lot & bnd. N'ly on Moses  
Cadwell Jr's. land in h'wy laid out by the Town & W'ly on  
land of Asahel Brainard, this piece of land 3a., bounds:  
ref. may be had to said Porter's deed.  
Wit.: Judah Holcomb & Asahel Brainard (Received 60 pounds)

Vol.1, p.277 to John Kelly late of Simsbury now of Grand-  
vill (sic), 25 acres, more or less, 4 Feb. 1771. Bnd. Beg.  $\$23\frac{3}{8}$   
NE corner of Hartland . . . along province line . . .  
(this mostly illegible; see rec. Vol.1, p.186)  
Wit.: Eldad Holcomb & Nehemiah Andrews (Received 20 pounds)

Vo.1, p.341 to Thomas Giddings, Phineas Kingsbery & Uriel  
Holms, proprietors of H., 26 Nov. 1772: Land in Public H'wy,  
Bnd. in the 1st Div. West of the River att a path running  
N & S by W.P., thouse (sic - thus?) beginning at a stake  
& stones about 25 rods S of Porter's dwelling house, run-  
ning E to the E side of the River to a Buttonwood tree,  
continuing about E to the (word omitted) of the first hill  
to a Black Birch, then running N to brook then keeping upon



said line about 60 rods to the hill to a Beach (beech) marked, then turn E 32 degrees S to a hemlock marked, then turn E 26 degrees S to a chestnut marked, then turn E 13 degrees S to a white birch, then going Eastwardly about 60 rods to a small maple bush with stones about it, then continuing Easterly in the most convenient place to the E end of Porter lot to ( ) - much here illegible - but I think, Bound marked with B H s<sup>d</sup> land that I now sell is 4 rods wide from s<sup>d</sup> bounds marked with B H South and continues 4 rods in width from the E bounds to the W bounds.

Wit.: Neh<sup>m</sup> Andrews & Asa Andrews

(Received 10 pounds)

Vol.1, p.352 to Asa Smith of Granville, Ma., 11 Mar.1773; 1/2 of a lot of land laid out to Joseph & Timothy Cows in the 1st Div. it being 1/2 of said lot on the South Tier running through the length of said lot. End. E of land laid out to Hon. Joseph Talcott, N on Porter's land, W on the 3rd Div., S on Eppefus (Epaphras?) Sheldon containing 53 acres and 1/2 and 20 rods of land more or less.

Wit.: Elishama Porter & John Porter (Received 32 pounds, 2 shillings)

Vol.1, p.378 to William Woodford of Farmington, 23 Nov.1773, land in 1st Div. ca.28 acres more or less. End. from SE corner running N 15 rods it being a lot of land that was laid out to Timothy Seymores taking the width of said lot to the River.

Wit.: Neh<sup>m</sup> Andrews & Asa Andrews (Received 10 pounds)

Vol.1, p.467 Alexander Allyn of Windsor to Paul Simons of Hartland, 24 Mar.1775, land Allyn purchased from W.P. by deed dated 7 Oct.1773, 25 acres, more or less. End. W & S on Simon, N on Province line & E on land of heirs of Abner Warters.

Wit.: Roger Newberry & Amelia Ely (in Windsor). (Rec. 23 pounds, 10s)

Vol.1, p.473 W.P. to Samuel Benjamin 13 Apr.1773; land from heirs of Timothy Seymour "which I hold under Timothy Seymour's heirs".

Wit.: Isaac Burnham & Neh<sup>m</sup> Andrews

The above recorded 25 Mar., 1775! (Received 4 pounds)

For each transaction I have given the date of the deed, not the date recorded.

For most transactions the Lot number was written in on the margin of the deed at a later date. And there were also, in most cases, another number than the page number given. I would guess this might be the page number of the original records from which these records were hand-copied.

I trust I have made no errors.

*Blanche*

(more later, when I recover!)

Mrs. Albert S. Jack  
R.D.1 Box 202  
Kent, CT 06757

## HARTLAND CHURCH RECORDS

Our Porter Family does not show up in the Vital Records but the Hartland Church Records seem to be the only place where information can be found on our family. All of the Porter names found in these records belong to the same family, and the proof that they are all one family is found in the will of William Porter, and two deeds of his son Thomas Porter.

In his will William Porter names his family in this order:  
Wife - Ruth (She may or may not be the mother of all of his children.- first mention of her is in ch. record. May 1, 1768)

## Children:

Elishama - who married Mrs. Elizabeth Benjamin  
John  
Thomas - who married Phebe Leavit  
Hannah - who married Allyn, possibly Nathaniel Allen.  
Abigail - who married Alexander Stewart  
Ruth - who married Ebenezer Barnes, Jr.  
Rachel - who married William Barnes  
Electa

I am including the church records from the two churches in Hartland, Litchfield County, Connecticut which lists this family. These records including the original records are found at Connecticut State Library.

## HARTLAND

## First Congregational Church

1768 - 1913

PORTER, Electa D.d.W(illia)m & Ruth, bp. Mar. 24, 1771	DG	23
Elishama adm. com. Feb. 4, 1776	2	10
	DG	8
Elishama m. Elizabeth Benjamin, both of Hartland, May 28, 1773	2	35
	2	53
John adm. com. Feb. 11, 1776	DG	67
	DG	8
John d. June 7, 1777	2	35
	2	162
Ruth original mem. of ch. organized May 1, 1768	DG	91
	3	130
Ruth o.c. May 1, 1768	4	2
	DG	2
William original mem. of ch. organized May 1, 1768	2	2
	3	130
William o.c. May 1, 1768	4	2
	DG	2
William d. June 13, 1771 1774 <i>see original record</i>	2	2
	DG	90
	2.	161

APB Y8.1



A HISTORY OF THE SECOND ECCLESIASTICAL SOCIETY  
and  
THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HARTLAND,  
CONNECTICUT

By Stanley A. Ransom

1. List in the words of the founders, for the following reasons:

"We, whose names are herewith annexed, having our habitation by divine providence in the western part of the Township of Hartland, being by law an incorporated civil society, where by reason of too great a distance, we can not with convenience steadily enjoy Communion in the special ordinance of the gospel with any regular organized Church of Christ, deeply sensible of the high importance of such communion and earnestly desirous of it, and to that end would be formed into a distinct and particular Church of Christ by ourselves and thereupon mutually and cordially embrace as matter of our firm belief the several summary doctrinal articles contained in the following Confession of Faith, and fully consent to the Church Covenant therunto subjoined." (The Confession of Faith and the Church Covenant being practically identical with that given in the History of the First Church and Society, is omitted here.)

The names of those signing for the Second Society are as follows:

Reuben Hale	Abner Bushnell	Lynce Taylor, Jr.
James Hungerford	John Wilder	Samuel Crosby
Beman Beach	John Bates	Daniel Ensign
Reuben Burdham	Joseph Wilder	Jacob Cowdry
Hezekiah Atkins	Simcon Crosby	Elezar Ensign
★ Elihama Porter	Asa Smith	Israel Williams
Ephraim Wilder	Abel Brace	James Markham

It is interesting to note that all of those signing were males - it was a man's world in those days - but after thinking it over apparently it was considered that some of the women were also worthy of salvation and at a later meeting 23 of them were admitted to membership although their names are not given. It was 107 years later before any

This church was known as the West Hartland Congregational Church 1779 - 1899. In this church list a large number of the Allen family is listed and the following four entries are found - possibly being Hannah Porter and her husband.

ALLEN:

Hannah w. of Nathaniel, d. Aug. 1, 1782	1	245
	DG	112
Hannah w. of Nathaniel, adm. com. Feb. 17, 1782	1	97
	DG	58
Nathaniel adm. com. Mar. 3, 1782	1	97
	DG	58
Nathaniel d. June 13, 1784	1	245
	DG	112

There may possibly be some of their children in this list also, but we have no idea whom their children may be.

HARTLAND  
West Hartland Congregational Church  
1779 - 1899

-75-

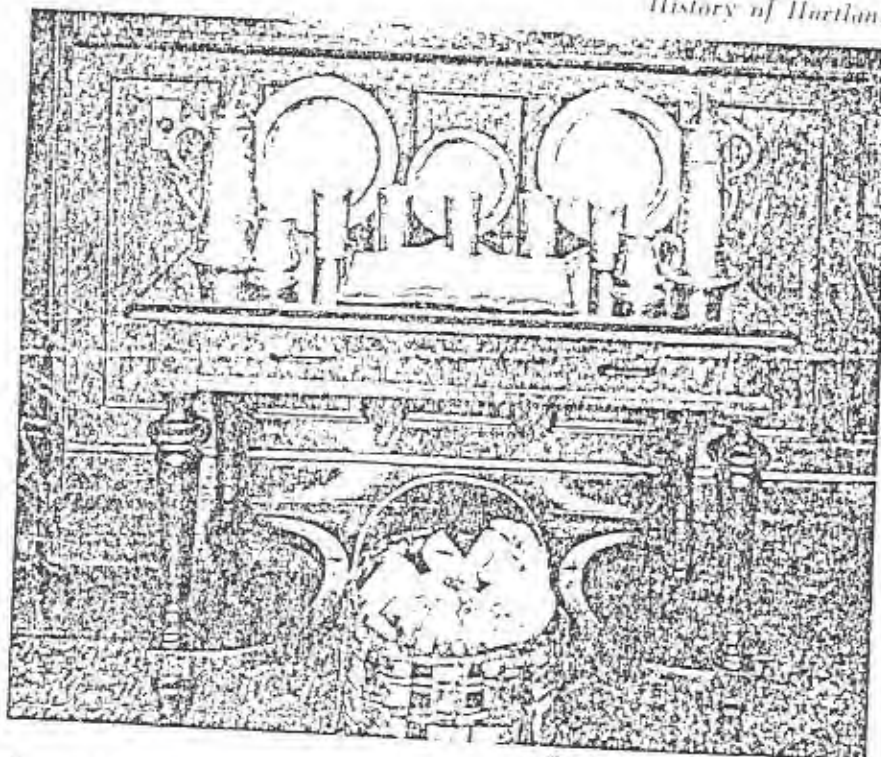
PORTER, Abigail adm.com. Sept. 4, 1785	1	100
Betsey dau. Thomas & Phebe, bp. Dec. 2, 1787	DG	59
Elisabeth w. of Elishama, adm.com. May 23, 1784	1	149
Elishama orig. ch. mem. May 4, 1780	DG	87
Elishama d. Aug. 18, 1825, age 74	1	98
Elishamer & Ruth, ch. mem. Jan. 9, 1782	DG	58
Phebe w. of Thomas, adm.com. July 10, 1791	1	8
Rachel adm.com. Sept. 4, 1785	DG	53
Ruth & Elishamer, ch. mem. Jan. 9, 1782	1	259
Ruth wid., d. Mar. 10, 1788	DG	120
Thomas adm.com. Oct. 17, 1784 <i>Nov. 7 see original record. AFB 7/1/89.</i>	1	95
Thomas m. Phebe Leavit, both of Hartland, Aug. 31, 1786	DG	57
William s. Thomas & Phebe, bp. July 18, 1790	1	246
William s. Thomas, d. June 26, 1791	DG	112
	1	99
	DG	59
	1	212
	DG	132
	1	151
	DG	88
	1	248
	DG	113

On the following page is a picture of the Pewter Communion Service used by the members of the Second Congregational Church in Hartland beginning in 1780.

This would be the communion set which was used by some of the Porter Family. The following family members all used this communion service.

Mrs. Ruth Porter - widow of William  
Elishama Porter and his wife Mrs. Elizabeth Benjamin  
and possibly her three children by a former marriage.  
Abigail Porter  
Rachel Porter  
Thomas Porter and his wife Phebe Leavit  
Hannah Porter and husband Nathaniel





*Porter Communion Service used by members of Second Congregational Church beginning in 1780. Now in possession of Connecticut State Library.*

The only Porter appearing in the HARTLAND, Births-Marriages - Deaths 1761-1848 in the Barbour Collection at the Connecticut State Library 1927 is the following. P.23

PORTER, William, s. Thomas & Phebe b. May 16, 1790;  
d. June 25, 1791.

In the Vital Records of Granville, Massachusetts to the Year 1850 we find the marriage of two of William Porter's daughters as follows: Page 146

PORTER, Abigail and Alexander Stewart, Jan. 3, 1788.  
(Steward, C.R.1)  
, Rachel of Hartland and William Barnes, Apr. 28, 1791.  
(Rachel of Hartland, Conn. and William Barnes, C.R.1)

In L. Barbour, EARLY HARTFORD MARRIAGES, we find this entry: Page 463.

WILLIAM PORTER

William Porter of Hartland.

Children:

Rachel bp. June 11, 1767 (1 Cr. Rec)

18. WILLIAM 4 PORTER, whose wife was Ruth on 1 May 1768 had eight children as follows:

- 20. i Elishama who mar. Mrs. Elizabeth Benjamin
- 21. ii John
- 22. iii Thomas
- 23. iv Hannah who married Mr. Allyn or Allen
- 24. v Abigail who married Alexander Stewart
- 25. vi Ruth who married Ebenezer Barnes, Jr.
- 26. vii Rachel who married William Barnes
- 27. viii Electa - possibly died young.

From here on will try and include all materials we have on each of the above children, except for the son Thomas.

20. ELISHAMA 5 PORTER, the son of William Porter was born probably in Middletown ca. 1751 and he died in Town of Hartland 18 Aug. 1825 at the age of 74 (2nd. Cong. Church Record)

He married at Hartland, 28 May 1778 Elizabeth Benjamin (West Hartland Cong. Ch. rec. or 2nd. Cong. Ch. rec.) the widow of Asher Benjamin, who died 2 Jan. 1777, aged 25 years Elishama and Elizabeth were both of Hartland when they were married.

Elizabeth had three children by her previous marriage to Asher Benjamin I. On 4th. July 1784 these children, George, Asher II, and Lois were baptized at the West Hartland Congregational Church.

In the 1790 Census Elishama was listed as Elisha Porter with 1 male over 16

0 males under 16

2 females

It would appear from this census that at least the sons Asher and George did not live with them after their marriage. However, in 1791 Elishama Porter took out guardianship papers for Asher who was about 17 years old.

In the 1800 census Elishama is also listed as Elisha with 2 males under 10

1 male 25-45

1 male 45 and over

1 female 16-26

1 female 45 and older

In the 1810 Census, Elishama is listed in Hartland, Hartford Co. in the Index, and again in the 1820 Census as Elisha. Elishama died in 1825 and neither the name Elisha or Elishama is found in the 1830 Census.

We do not believe Elishama had any children which grew to adulthood, and perhaps no children at all, as his will names no children, only Elizabeth's children.

#### WILL

ORIGINAL WILL OF ELISHAMA PORTER, HARTLAND, CT. Probate District Granby, Ct. State Library, Hartford, Ct.

Presented for Probate Dec. 28, 1825.

Presented by Samuel Porter (He is unknown to us)

File #1351

1. To ELIZABETH, wife - free use of all my lands and buildings all of her life and then they go to.



2. The heirs of my son-in-law, Asher Benjamin one half of my lands, buildings and properties.
3. The other half to my daughter-in-law Lois (Thing?) could not make out last name.
4. I give my wife ELIZABETH all my moneys, property of every sort at her own disposal without any reservation.

Son-in-law ASHER BENJAMIN of Boston to be executor.

Witnessed by John ?

Abigail Treat

25 December 1812.

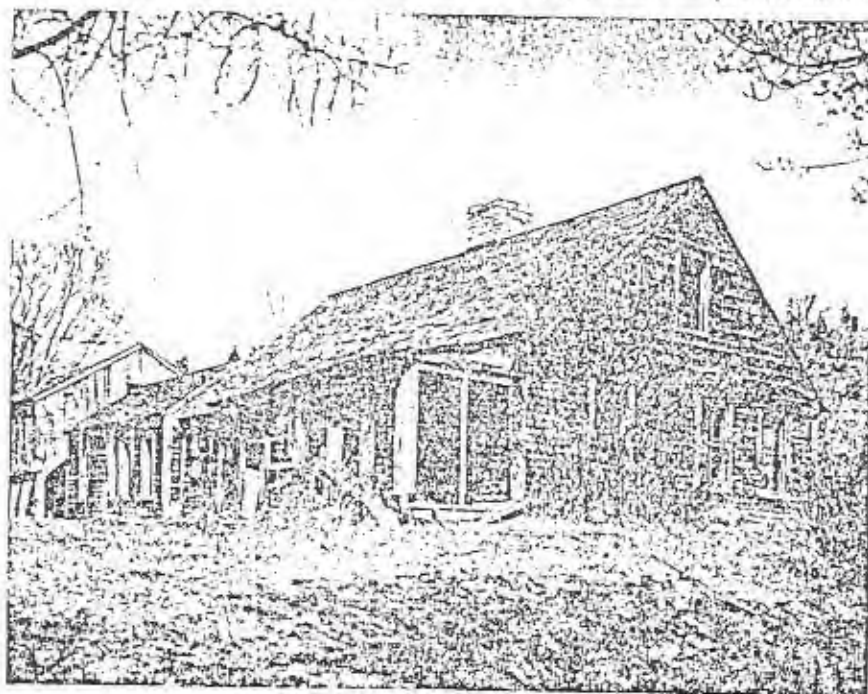
This will was presented for probate by SAMUEL PORTER because ASHER BENJAMIN declined. Neither the widow, next of kin, or any creditors having appeared. Samuel was appointed administrator. Apparently it would seem that between the time ELISHAMA made his will in 1812 and when he died in 1825, he had become insolvent so there was nothing to leave to anyone. What happened? Especially when he was the son of William who got such preferential treatment in his father's will. - Mrs. Helen Ransom.

## History of Hartland

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### STATE PARK AND FOREST

Even before the Water Bureau of the Metropolitan District Commission had indicated its designs on Hartland Hollow, the State Park and Forest Commission had acquired sizable areas of Hartland acreage for forest and recreational use. In 1921 the State Park and Forest Commission was by legislative act empowered to acquire land for public owners.



Courtesy Lewis S. Mills

*Typical of the abandoned homestead of the early 1900's. This house located in South Hartland Hollow may have been the boyhood home of Asher Benjamin.*

Asher Benjamin II was an early author of the first book published in America devoted to building and architecture.

In the Annual Report for 1978 of HISTORIC DEERFIELD, INC. Deerfield, Massachusetts, page 7, we find this note concerning their library.

"A most exciting addition to the Rare Book Collection of the Henry N. Flynt Library is a group of ASHER BENJAMIN architectural pattern books. They belonged to the colonial revival architect Aymar Embury II, who first brought Asher Benjamin to 20th. century notice as an important early American architect. Purchase of these important volumes was made possible by the generosity of Samuel B. Payne, Mrs. William C. Schoettle, and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Atwood."

## History of Hartland

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### CHAPTER VII

## *Biographical Vignettes*

### ASHER BENJAMIN

The name, Asher Benjamin, may mean little to those who are unacquainted with the history of early American Architecture and the development of the building profession as it expanded in the Colonial period.



Asher Benjamin

Courtesy, Edmund L. Howe



His fame evolves from the fact that he is the author of the first book published in America devoted to the subject of building and architecture. This book, entitled "The Country Builder's Assistant", published in Greenfield, Massachusetts in 1797, became the "Builder's Bible" of the day. (The writer has in his possession a copy of Asher Benjamin's book, entitled "The Practical House Carpenter"; the title page states that it is "published in Boston by the author, R.P. and C. Williams and Ansd & Smith, 1830", the author being "Asher Benjamin Architect". It also states that he is the author of "The American Builder's Companion" and "The Rudiments of Architecture".)

His reputation as an architect and an author of note on architectural subjects is secure. The extent of his activities was great and comprised such notable examples as: The stairway of the Old State House in Hartford; the Academy at Deerfield, Massachusetts; a number of Beacon Hill houses in Boston; Center Church, New Haven; the Meeting House in Windsor, Vermont; the Coleman-Hollister house in Greenfield, Massachusetts; Alexander house in Springfield, Massachusetts, and many other similar examples in New England and elsewhere.

Asher Benjamin II was born in Hartland, Connecticut, in 1774 (the exact date being unknown), the son of Asher Benjamin I and Elizabeth — Benjamin. For some years Samuel Benjamin, grandfather of Asher II, had been settled in Granville, Massachusetts, just over the state line from what later became North Hartland Hollow. When the first division of Hartland was made, the 49th lot became the property of Thomas Olcott, and this section was devoted to a combination of farm and mill-sites, it being directly south and adjoining the Granville property of Samuel Benjamin. Samuel Benjamin bought the Hartland property from Thomas Olcott and built a house on it which became known as the Benjamin Farm. Asher Benjamin I was living on the Hartland Farm and also working in the mill at various times when Asher II was born. There seems to be no deed on record of where Samuel Benjamin transferred this property to his son Asher I, but on the grand levy of Hartland for the year of 1774, Asher Benjamin is assessed at £21, and for the year 1775, his assessment was £23, 6s., indicating that the property must have been in his name (Key III-159). He is also listed as being one of the Hartland men participating in the Revolutionary War. Asher Benjamin I died January 2, 1777, aged 25, leaving his wife, Elizabeth, and three young children, George, Asher, and Lois. (While the documentation is incomplete, there is little doubt that Asher Benjamin II was born in Hartland, Connecticut.)

Elizabeth, widow of Asher I, subsequently married Elishama Porter who lived in South Hartland Hollow (Key III-220 approx.). He was originally a member of the First Society in East Hartland, but when the Second Society was formed on the West Mountain in 1780, he was one of the original subscribers to the "Covenant and Confession of Faith" of the Second Society. On page 47 of the Second Society's Record Book, under the heading of "Baptisms", is the following entry: "July 4th, 1784.—George, Asher and Lois, children of the wife of Elishama Porter by former husband", which indicates that Asher II was approximately eleven years old at the time.

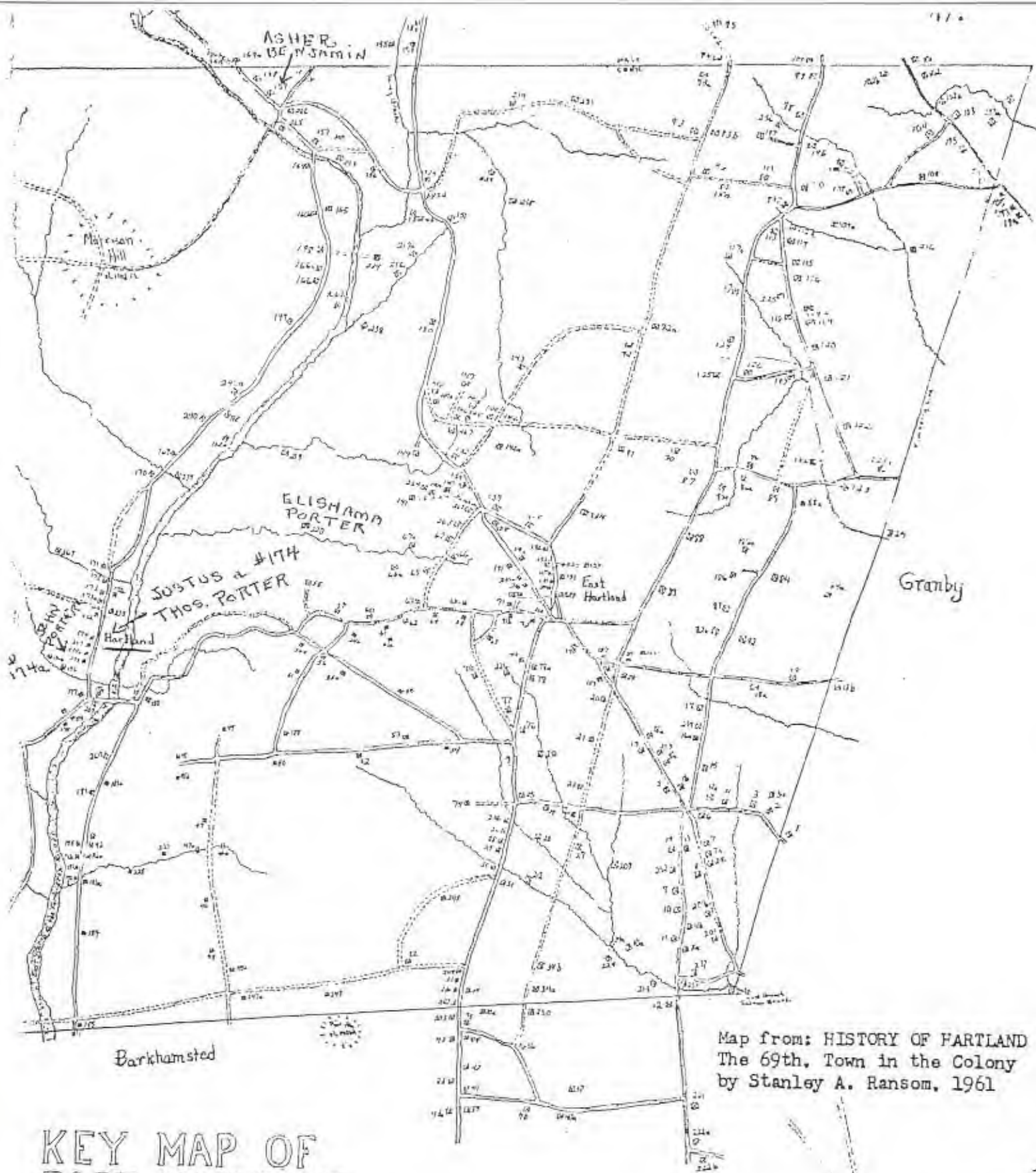
The Probate Records (District of Simsbury) show that Elishama Porter was officially appointed guardian of Asher Benjamin II on August 15, 1791, stating Asher's age as "a minor of about seventeen years". It would appear that Asher was still living with his step-father at that time.

His formal education must have been intensive and acquired within the next few years after 1791, for by 1800 he had already become distinguished in his chosen field.

Hartland is proud to claim Asher Benjamin II as one of its native sons whose fame, as an architect and builder, rests upon the influence he brought to bear upon others in his profession in developing the late Colonial style of architecture.







Map from: HISTORY OF HARTLAND  
The 69th. Town in the Colony  
by Stanley A. Ransom, 1961

# KEY MAP OF EAST HARTLAND HOMESTEADS to 1911

- houses still standing (1911) Not shown
- old ruins of houses
- main roads
- discontinued roads

Drawn by David Ransom, 1961  
Based on 1890 Census map  
in Connecticut Library

21. JOHN 5 PORTER, probably the second son of William was probably born in Middletown, Ct. died in Hartland 7 June 1777. He was a member of First Congregational Church in Hartland and was adm. com. 11 Feb. 1776, and his death record is recorded here.

According to the History of Hartland there were three men by the name of Porter who fought in the Revolutionary War from Hartland. These were found in the ROSTER OF OLD CONTINENTAL ARMY, Company 17 as follows:

Capt. John Porter H.H. 174a

Private Justus Porter, East Hartland #174

Private Thomas Porter, East Hartland #174

The number following their names designates the house on the map of West Hartland found on page 42. See where John Porter's, Thomas Porter, Elishama Porter and Asher Benjamin lived. I believe this is probably our family, as the deeds from our Thomas Porter would indicated this was the area as it speaks in many of the deeds as being between the river and the road. Who this Justus Porter was I have no idea, but he seemed to be living in the Thomas Porter home.

A copy of the Bond and Inventory of John Porter of the Town of Hartland dated 1777 No. 2330 is found in the Simsbury Probate District, & at the Connecticut State Library.

The Bond for John's Estate appointed Elishama Porter as Administrator of the Estate, and he and Oliver Bates both of Hartland gave bond in the amount of two hundred pounds, on the 8th of December 1777. No will was found, however it appears from Deeds of land for Thomas Porter that John's land was divided amongst his brothers and sisters 1/6 to each.

#### INVENTORY

Hartland, November the 24 1777. An Inventory of the Estate of John Porter the deceased is as follows:

	<u>l</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>p</u>
two Hat .....	1 -	0 -	0
handkerchief <u>Stead</u> and <u>Bevkel</u> .....	0 -	7 -	6
Coat and vest .....	0 -	7 -	0
Pair of Breeches pair of stockings .....	0 -	9 -	0
<u>Sortvte</u> Coat and Stockings .....	0 -	7 -	0
one ox one year old one Calf .....	9 -	4 -	0
one mair two sheep .....	4 -	5 -	0
one sow three pigs .....	1 -	14 -	0
Barn 21 bushels of Rie (Rye) .....	12 -	14 -	0
Six bushels of oats two Acres of Corn ground .	2 -	2 -	0
pair of Sheep Shears 12 yards of <u>foted</u> Cloth	4 -	18 -	6
thirteen yards of shirting .....	1 -	16 -	6
7 pounds of wol (wool) 3 pounds of flax .....	0 -	16 -	6
Bagnet Carthredg Box Cutlash .....	0 -	11 -	0
Tobacco Box and pen nife and bibel (bible) ...	0 -	7 -	0
one pair of plowirons 4 harrow teath .....	0 -	16 -	4
one orger (auger) 2 axes iron weg (wedge)			
Betel ring .....	0 -	9 -	6
Shaving nife (knife) 2 old siths one fro			
one hoe ..	0 -	6 -	3
Sythe and tacklen and Chains .....	0 -	9 -	9



Steel Sythe, goad irons, steel trap .....	0	-	5	-	9
hamer, one Bag, eight hundred of Bords (boards)	1	-	4	-	6
half acer of flax ground .....	0	-	8	-	0
Cash one pound ten shillings .....	1	-	10	-	0
thirty acres of Land .....	60	-	0	-	0

Total	105	-	9	-	3
-------	-----	---	---	---	---

John Bates	)	
Cornelius Merry	)	Under oath
E Porter	)	

On the lower sheet of the inventory apparently these debts and payments are recorded.

Debts Exhibited April 27, 1778 .....	50	-	2	-	6
Debts supposed will come in viz					
For Tobacco at Windsor .....	2	-	8	-	0
£ for Ram'l & 1/2 shad his part one half	1	-	10	-	0
To Doctor wicocke 1/2 to him Judg_____ ..	1	-	10	-	0
£ to Lt. Andrew Hidy___ his half suppose	0	-	5	-	0
to Goodwin at Hartford for Kitty 1/2...	1	-	0	-	0
£ To Capt. Elisha Phelps heirs of Estate ?	4	-	0	-	0
to Solomon Dunham .....	4	-	10	-	0
To Isaac Goodwin .....	4	-	10	-	0
to Oliver Phelps .....	1	-	0	-	0
to Dea Hitchlock .....	2	-	0	-	0
Total	72	-	15	-	6

There were a lot of various lists of figures given on the side of the paper as follows:

105 - 9 - 3		72 - 15 - 6
60 - 0 - 0	- This evidently land deducted from Inventory.	45 - 9 - 3
45 - 9 - 3		27 - 6 - 9

60 - 8 - 6	74 - 6 - 6	105 - 9 - 3
2 - 8 - 0	45 - 9 - 3	74 - 6 - 6
1 - 10 - 0	28 - 17 - 3	31 - 2 - 9
1 - 0 - 0		
4 - 10 - 0		
4 - 10 - 0		
74 - 6 - 6		

On the outside of this Inventory Sheet this was written. "An Inventory of the Estate of John Porter, Late of Hartland dec<sup>d</sup> and under Oath accepted and ordered to be recorded and kept on file in manner accustomed."

also this note ".....of so much of ye real Estate of ye Dec<sup>d</sup> as will raise ye sum of                      viz so of ye land on ye North of ye Farm belonging to ye Estate of ye Dec<sup>d</sup> and extend ye whole length of ye same."

It appears that part of the land was sold to pay off the balance of the debts and it may be that Elishama purchased this land.

22. THOMAS 5 PORTER, the son of William Porter was probably born in Middletown, Ct. and died in Ohio or Indiana in 1808 to 1810. He married in Hartland, Ct. 31 Aug. 1786 Phebe Leavit. (this family to be continued) (See page 54)

23. HANNAH 5 PORTER, the daughter of William Porter was probably born in Middletown, Ct. She probably was the oldest daughter as she is named first in her father's will. We know very little about her, except from deeds of Thomas Porter her brother. In the West Hartland Congregational Church of Hartland there appear a number of Allen family members. One such entry gives Hannah wife of Nathaniel Allen was admitted to communion 17 Feb. 1782 and she died 1 Aug. 1782. Her husband Nathaniel was adm. com. 3 Mar. 1782 and he died 13 June 1784. Very possible that they had children which lived in the same vicinity as Thomas Porter, and his brother John Porter. The name of Titus Allen is mentioned in connection with one deed. (see deeds of Thomas Porter)

On the 9 May 1791 Thomas Porter received a Grantee Deed from Ebenezer Barnes, Jr. and his wife Ruth (Porter) Alexander Stewart and his wife Abigale (Porter) and William Barnes and his wife Rachel (Porter) "our rights to the real Estate of John Porter as a son of said William Porter, also our right to Real Estate of Hannah Alling and what we received under the will of our Honored Father William Porter."

On the following 10 Aug. 1791, Elishama Porter deeded to his brother Thomas Porter two parcels of land one being, "the sixth-part of the Land that was my Sister Hannah Allyn, deceased." This is all we know of this daughter of William Porter.

24. ABIGAIL 5 PORTER, the daughter of William Porter was admitted to communion in West Hartland Congregational Church in Hartland 4 Sept. 1785 (W.H. Cong. Ch. rec.)

She married 3 Jan. 1788 Alexander Stewart (Steward-C.R.1) at Granville, Mass. This found in Graville V.R.

In the 1790 census they were living in Granville, Mass next door to her sister Rachel who married Ebenezer Barnes, Jr. as follows:

Stewart, Alexander    1 male over 16  
                              2 males under 16  
                              4 females

Abigail probably was the second wife of Alexander Stewart as all these children in the 1790 census could not have been hers, unless she was married previously which is doubtful. We do know she was deceased before the 9 May 1791 when Alexander Stewart signed the deed to Thomas Porter in behalf of his wife Abigale, deceased.



25. RUTH 5 PORTER, daughter of William Porter was the wife of Ebenezer Barnes, Jr. and was living in Granville, Mass when she and her husband signed a deed selling her interest in her father's estate to her brother Thomas Porter on 29 June 1791.

In the 1790 Census of Granville, Hampshire Co., Mass. we find the following:

Ebenezer Barns, Jr. 1 male over 16  
3 males under 16  
2 females.

On one side of Ebenezer Barns, Jr. was his father-  
Ebenezer Barns 1 male over 16  
1 male under 16  
4 females

On the other side was Alexander Stewart who mar. Abigail Porter, a sister of Ruth with

1 male over 16  
2 males under 16  
4 females.

From the above census records it looks like Ruth and her husband Ebenezer Barnes, Jr. must have had 4 or 5 children. Nothing more is known of this family.

By tradition, our Thomas Porter #22 had two sisters or two half-sister who married men by the name of Barnes and this tradition has proven true as Ruth #25 and Rachel #26 both married men by the name of Barnes.

Mrs. Albert Jack who is a descendant of Rachel has given me a little Barnes History and with what she has given me along with Church Records from Middletown, I believe that Ruth's husband Ebenezer Barnes, Jr. and William Barnes husband of Rachel Porter were own cousins.

#### THE BARNES FAMILY - MIDDLETOWN, CT.

The earliest records of any Barnes found in the Church Record is an Elizabeth Barnes of the Church of Christ of New Haven on 25 June 1678. Mrs. Jack tells me "Three of my early Barnes" were born there: Thomas (1647), Ebenezer (1697) and Phineas (1744). For some reason the missing link, Maybee (1663) was born in New Haven."

The Middletown Church Records contain 298 Barnes entries and from these I have put together the ancestry of these two Barnes men who married Porter sisters.

Mabee (Maybee) Barnes and wife Elizabeth Stow are first found in this record in 1691 and 1692. Their children with their baptismal date is given below:

i	Nathaniel	Jan. 3, 1691
ii	Elizabeth	Apr. 16, 1693
iii	Samuel	July 14, 1695; d. 1781 age 86.
* iv	Ebenezer	Sept 19, 1697
v	Thomas	May 26, 1700
vi	Joseph	Aug. 16, 1702
vii	Gershom	Sept. 16, 1705

\* Ebenezer Barnes, bp. 19 Sept. 1697.  
Blanch Jack says he married Mehittabel Miller. The following children are given in the baptismal records of Middletown Church.

- |        |            |   |
|--------|------------|---|
| i      | Isaac      | Oct. 13, 1728   |
| ii     | Ebenezer   | Jan. 25, 1729/30 I have no proof but I think this is the father of Ebenezer, Jr. who married Ruth Porter d/o William.       |
| iii    | Amos       | Mar. 26, 1732   |
| iv     | Rhodia     | Mar. 24, 1734   |
| v      | Elijah     | June 6, 1736  |
| vi     | Mehittabel | Apr. 15, 1739   |
| vii    | Benjamin   | Mar. 8, 1741  |
| * viii | Phineas    | Aug. 12, 1744 - This is the father of William Barnes who married Rachel Porter and Mrs. Albert S. (Blanch) Jack's ancestor. |
| ix     | Elihu      | Sept 7, 1746  |
| x      | Rebecca    | Oct. 30, 1748   |
| xi     | Jeremiah   | Mar. 3, 1751  |

\* Phineas Barnes bp. 12 Aug. 1744 at Middletown married Mercy Provin and among his children he had these: according to Mrs. Jack. There may have been others:

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| i   | William Barnes b. Granville, Mass. 7 Oct. 1766 (G.R.) d. Granville 18 April 1841, Age 75 yr. Married Rachel Porter. |
| ii  | Amos (1790-1845) mar. Abigail Sweatman (1784-1842)  |
| iii | Phineas Barnes b. 7 Oct. 1770; mar. 18 Sept. 1800 (G.V.R.) Abigail Smith  |
| iv  | Hopni Barnes mar. int. 16 Aug. 1806 (Granville Vital Records)   |

26. RACHEL 5 PORTER, dau. of William and Ruth Porter was bp 11 June 1767 (1 Ch. Rec -Early Hartford Marriages by Lucian Barbour). She died 16 Jan. 1845, age 78 (Gravestone Record) and is bur. at West Granville Cemetery, Granville, Mass.

Rachel married at Granville, Mass. 28 April 1791 William Barnes. They were both of Hartland, Ct. at the time of their marriage. (Vital Recors Granville & Church Records).

William Barnes was born at Granville, Mass. 7 Oct. 1766, (G.R.) and died at Granville 18 April 1841, ae 75. He is buried in West Granville Cemetery. (G.V.R.)

William Barnes and his wife Rachel Porter had the following children: Names found in Tolland, Mass. Church Records.

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| i   | William Emery Barnes b. Granville, Mass. in 1807 died in Tolland, Mass. |
| ii  | Porter Barnes   |
| iii | Electa Barnes   |
| iv  | Rachel Barnes mar. 14 June 1820 Curtiss Hall (GVR)                      |
| v   | Nabby Barnes  |



- vi Lyman Barnes
- vii Orpha Barnes b. 1805, 1 Aug. 1841 ae 36 (G.R.6)
- \* viii Marcus Barnes b. Tolland, Mass. b. 1800,  
mar. 13 May 1818 Frances (Fanny in Ch. Rec).  
Burbank. He died Tolland, 5 June 1874.  
His wife Frances was b. possibly in Hartford  
1792/5 and died at Tolland 2 Aug 1873.  
In marriage Record it is marked \_\_\_\_\_ Barnes  
and Fanny Burbank "of Hartford"  
Children:
  - i Rachel b. 1820
  - ii Hannah - said she was 19 when she  
married Allen Rice in 1849, but  
according to her death record she  
was 91 when she died in 1918

(there may have been others)

\* Marcus Barnes viii given above is the great great grandfather of Mrs. Albert S. (Blanche) Jack, R.D. #1, Box 202, Kent, Connecticut 06757. Most of the information on the family of Rachel Porter and William Barnes was sent by her from her own family records.

27. ELECTA D. 5 PORTER, the dau. of William and Ruth was bp 24 March 1771. (1 Cong. Ch. of Hartland). She was named in her fathers will made 21 May 1774 but I can find no other reference to her. I believe she was deceased by 1791 when Thomas Porter, her brother, purchased land in Hartland. The deeds named all of his brothers and sisters except Electa.

There is a possibility that Electa was deceased by 7 June 1777 when her brother John died. His estate was divided into six shares. We know Elishama, Thomas, Abigail, Ruth and Rachel all got shares of John's estate, and if her sister Hannah who married Nathaniel Allen did not die until 1 Aug. 1782, she would have inherited the 6th. share.

Thus I believe she must have been deceased by the time her brother, John, died in 1777 or at least by the time of the settlement of his estate and the division of his property.

22. THOMAS 5 PORTER, the son of William Porter probably was born in either Middletown or else in Hartland, Conn. To date no birth or baptismal or Vital Records have been found for him.

By tradition from a grand-daughter Almira Porter Hemenway, he died in 1808 on a preaching trip and was buried in an unmarked grave near Ft. Wayne, Indiana. In the History of Rock County, Wisconsin published in 1879 on page 807 it says in an account concerning his son Philo Thomas Porter that "his father was killed and scalped by Indians in Maumee" (Ohio) and in an old newspaper clipping, with no date and no paper's name, found at the Bartlett Museum in Beloit, Wisconsin it says: "Philo Thomas Porter as a child in Ohio saw the Indians come to a field where his parents were working and saw them scalp his father." Another branch of the family by tradition puts his death about 1810-1811.

Maumee refers to the town of Maumee in Ohio near Toledo. The Maumee river also runs from Maumee to Fort Wayne, Indiana and was a favorite transportation route in the early days.

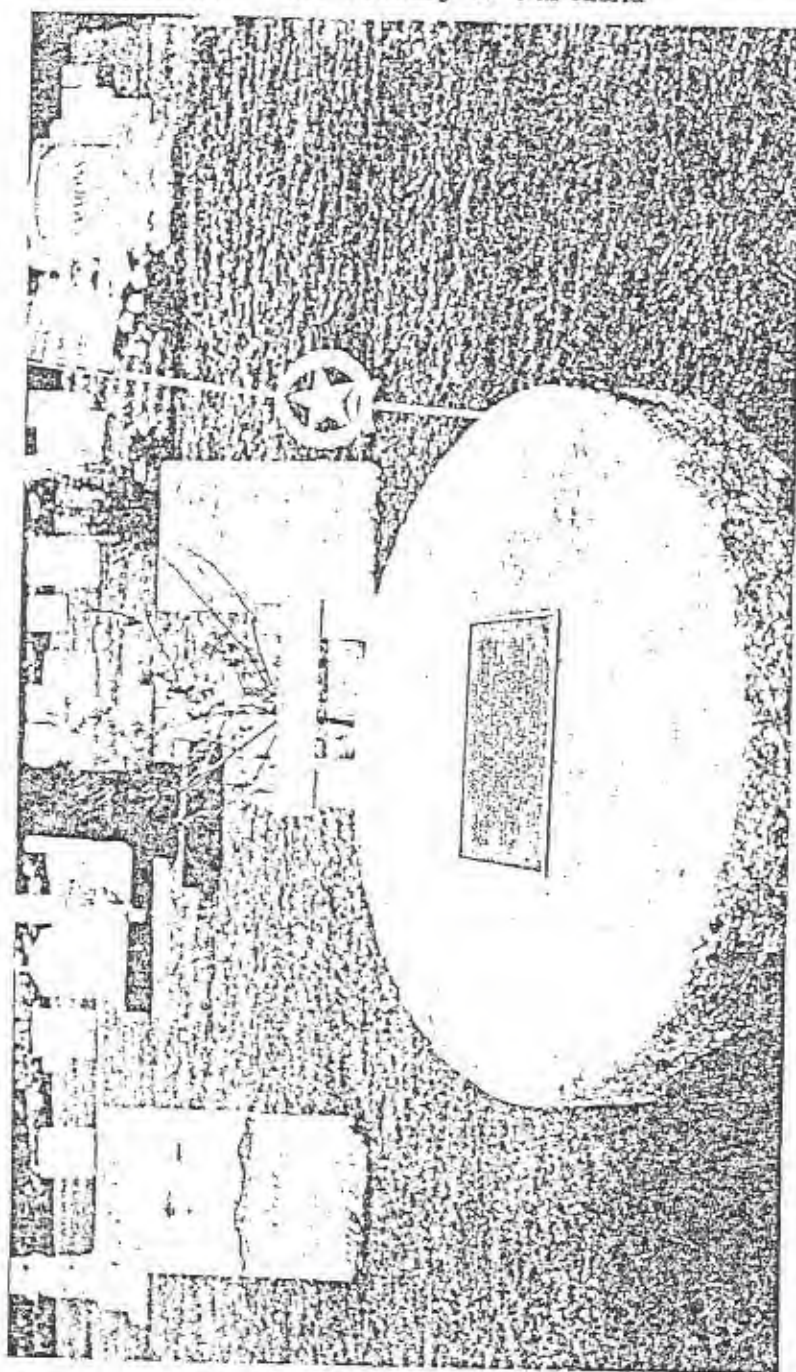
In the Historical & Biographical Record of Wood Co., Ohio Published by C. W. Evers and J. H. Beers 1897 page 361 in an account by Mrs. Hester Green we find this: "I moved to the Maumee Rapids, in 1810, with my father Daniel Purdy, from the State of New York. There came with us from the same place, with their families, Wm. Carter, Andrew Race (son-in-law of Carter), Mr. Hopkins, Stephen Hoit and Mr. Porter." Whether this is our Thomas Porter or not we do not know. However Maumee Rapids lies just below the town of Maumee.

Thomas 5 Porter married Phebe Leavit, both of Hartland 31 August 1786. (West Hartland Cong. Ch. Rec.) Phebe's parentage is unknown but by tradition she was the only child and her parents both died about 1763 when she was about two or three years old. Whether Leavit was her real name or the name of the people who raised her is unknown. Also by tradition Phebe was a Mayflower descendant according to Almira Porter Hemenway a grand-daughter. She probably is a descendant of William Leavitt, of Tittleworth, County of Essex, on the East Coast of England. He had four grandsons, who were all brothers, namely, John, Josiah, Thomas and William who all settled first in Dorchester, near Boston. The story has been handed down that they came on the Mayflower which had brought to Plymouth the Pilgrim Fathers eight years earlier. This would have had to have been the second boat named the Mayflower as the first boat was sold for salvage in 1624 in England.

Phebe Leavit was born ca. 17 March 1841 and died at New London, Huron County, Ohio 17 Sept. 1761, age 80 yrs. 6 mo. (Gravestone) She is buried in Miller or Butterfield Cemetery just north of New London, along with a son Aurora.

In the History of Hartland, The 69th. Town in the Colony of Connecticut, by Stanley A. Ransom 1961, he gives information





View of East Hartland Cemetery showing millstone used by Titus Hayes to grind grain for Revolutionary soldiers and grandchild of the historic Charter Oak, dedicated June 17, 1930.

— Courtesy Lewis S. Mills



about Hartland's Patriotic Celebration and Dedicating of a Bronze Tablet on a millstone (1930) in East Hartland, Ct. Cemetery. With this he gives the Roster of Old Continental Army, Company 17 (Revolutionary War) which included these men named Porter:

Capt. John Porter	H.H. 177a	(? Hartland Hollow)
Privates - Justus Porter	E.H. 174	(East Hartland)
- Thomas Porter	E.H. 174	(East Hartland)

See the Map Of Hartland on page 47 which locates these houses. Mrs. Blanche Jack also writes that, "In 1774 the 17th. Regiment was Litchfield, Goshen, Torrington and Winchester; while the 18th. Regiment was Symsbury, New Hartford, Hartland, Barkhamstead, and Colebrook."

Whether this Thomas Porter above is our Thomas Porter is not known, however he is of an appropriate age, and from the description of the deeds of land he purchased and sold in Hartland the descriptions parallel with the general location on the map for house number 174. Several of the deeds speak as being "bound on the North and South Road" and a couple references are made to being bound by the River on the East which makes the location similar to that given on the Map of Hartland.

For over sixty-one years various members of the Porter family have tried to trace the ancestry of our Thomas Porter without success, or positive proof of parentage, but at long last the proof is to be found in two deeds for land in Hartland which names his father and his brothers and sisters and then the will of his father William Porter.

The first mention we have found in Connecticut, to date, of our Thomas Porter is when he was admitted to Communion 7 Nov. 1784 in the West Hartland Congregational Church in Hartland. Here he married his wife, Phebe Leavit on 31 Aug. 1786 and she was adm. com. 10 July 1791. Also the baptismal records of their first two children are found here.

On 22 August 1785, just one year before his marriage, Thomas purchased two parcels of land totaling 32 acres for the sum of sixty two pounds and ten shillings in the First Division of Hartland. These are only two of the twenty deeds recorded for Thomas Porter at the Town Clerks Office at East Hartland, Conn. between 22 Aug. 1785 and 5 Dec. 1791, which included nine Grantee Deeds and eleven Grantor Deeds. A copy of all of these deeds are to be found on the end of Thomas Porter material.

On the 9th. May 1791, Thomas purchased for the sum of Thirty pounds from Ebenezer Barnes, Jr. and Ruth (Porter) his wife, Alexander Stewart in his own and in behalf of his late wife Abigail (Porter), and William Barnes and his wife, Rachel (Porter) all of Granville, Mass. "all the right estate that was given to each of us by the last will of our Honored Father, William Porter ...also all our right to Real Estate of John Porter, son of William and all our right to real estate of Hannah Alling (Allen) dau. of William. (See Page 61)

On the 10 Aug. 1791 Elishama Porter sold "to Thomas Porter, my brother" a piece of land bought from Town of Hartland and 1/6 part of my sister Hannah (Allyn) deceased and 5/6 part of my brother, John Porter's lands in Hartland. (See Page 62)



None of these deeds specify any amount of land. Just their right and interest in lands of their Father, William Porter, brother John and sister Hannah's estates.

On 5 Dec. 1791 Thomas Porter in consideration of one hundred and sixty pounds sold to George Frederick Miller of Hartland and Cyrus Miller of Farmington two pieces of land lying in the First Division of Hartland, containing a total of sixty-five acres of land and "my dwelling house."  
(See Page 68)

This is the last record we find of Thomas Porter in Hartland and probably at this time or shortly after Thomas took his family and started west to Ohio.

Thomas left the Congregational Church and by tradition he was an itinerant pioneer Baptist preacher and exhorter in Ohio. One other branch of the family says he was a Methodist circuit rider, however I have been unable to find proof that either is correct.

Thomas and Phebe had at least one son born in New York State 23 October 1795 according to 1850 Census of Ohio and family bible records.

Thomas's widow Phebe, her daughter Betsey Scribner, a widow with a three year old daughter Polly; and Phebe's two sons Aurora and Philo Thomas Porter all arrived in New London, Ohio in 1815 and made their home here for many years.

The only other record I have been able to find of Thomas in Connecticut is the 1790 Census of Litchfield Town, which included Hartland and eleven others.

Thomas Porter - 1 male over 16	(Thomas)
1 male under 16	(baby William)
3 females	(Phebe, Betsy, and perhaps a sister of Thomas's.)

Thomas and Phebe were the parents of four children and possibly another son, as follows.

- i Betsey bp. 2 Dec. 1787; (West Hartland Ch. Rec.)  
mar. 1st. Paul Scribner, 1 dau. Polly.  
mar. 2nd. Francis Keyes at New London 18 July, 1819. Died in Cincinnati, Ohio after 1850 Census.
- ii William bp. 18 July 1790; d. 26 June 1791. (Ch. Rec.)  
born 16 May 1790; d. 25 June 1791 (V.R. Hartland)
- iii Aurora b. Conn. (1850 Census) ca. 1792; d. unmarried  
New London, Ohio 8 Dec. 1851 AE 59 years.
- iv Philo Thomas b. 23 Oct. 1795 (Bible Rec) in N.Y. (1850 Census); d. in Clinton, Turtle twp. Rock County, Wisconsin 30 May 1876. He mar. Polly Miner and they had ten children. (I have almost all of the these descendants)
- v By tradition another son, name unknown who got left when the flatboat tied up at night when they were on their way West to Ohio, because he did not get back to the boat in time. He probably born some place between 1791 and 1794 with Aurora being born in this same time slot, ca. 1792-93.

The following 11 pages contain the gist of Thomas Porter's Deeds in Hartland, Ct.

For land in Town of Hartland, Conn.  
for THOMAS PORTER

GRANTEE DEEDS

Vol. 2 pg. 535: Nathan Hatch to Thomas Porter. Signed 22 Aug. 1785

Nathan Hatch of Hartland in County of Litchfield and State of Conn. in consideration of twenty two pounds ten shillings, lawful money, to Thomas Porter of Hartland the following piece of land, lying in Hartland in the first Division and is bounded as follows: (viz) Beginning at the Northwest corner of a stake and a heape of stones, running from thence on my North line unto land that I sold to Ashel Brainard and then running South on said Brainard line until it contains twenty acres of land, then running west and north to the first mentioned bounds and to be of equal width at each end Reference being had to the Highway as it is now laid out it being Part of a Lot of Land that I bought of Ephriam Sheldon..... Witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the 22 Day of Aug. 1785. Signed Sealed and Delivered in presence of  
Elishama Porter Nathan Hatch and a Seal.  
Eleazer Ensign - Justice of Peace.

Deed Received for Record Aug. 22, 1785.

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 3, pg. 30 Elishama Porter to Thomas Porter Signed Aug. 22, 1785

Elishama Porter of Hartland, in the County of Litchfield in consideration of Forty Pounds of lawful money, to Thomas Porter of Hartland, two pieces of land lying in Hartland in the First Division and are bounded as follows

(viz) the one peace is bounded east on the River, south on lands of Doctor Asa Smith, running North eighteen rods and then East until it contains ten acres of land. The other Peace is bounded East on the North and South Highway in the first Division and to be thirteen Rods in width on the South side of my land and to run west untill it contains two acres of land and bound, west and north on my own land.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the 22 day of August Anno Domini 1785.

Nathan Hatch

Eleazer Ensign. Justice of Peace.

Elishama Porter and a Seal.

\* \* \* \* \*

Copied September 20, 1980

by Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin  
R. D. #2, Box 41  
3221 State Route 162 East  
New London, Ohio 44851

(These copied from Zeroxed  
copies received from  
Town Clerk Office at  
East Hartland, Conn.  
copied in part)



Vol. 2, Pg. 509 Nathan Hatch to Thomas Porter Signed 24 Jan. 1786

Nathan Hatch of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and State of Conn. in consideration of two pound ten shilling to Thomas Porter of Hartland in the county aforesaid, a piece of land lying in Hartland and is bounded as follows:

(viz) East on the Highway that runs North and South, South on Elishama Porter's land west and north on land of Mikil Carrel or Carril it being five rods in width and contains Half an acre of land.

I have set my hand and seal the 24th. day of January 1786

Witnesses:

Elishama Porter

Nathan Hatch and a Seal.

Eleazer Ensign - Justice of Peace

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 3, Pg. 205 Peter Gagnard to Thomas Porter Signed Sept. 23, 1788

Peter Gagnard of Hartland in the County of Litchfield, State of Connecticut in consideration eight pounds lawful money, sold to Thomas Porter of Hartland.

One peace of land and one dwelling- house lying in Hartland is bounded as follows. East on the Highway that runs North and South, South on Thomas Porter Land and west and North on Land belonging to Michal Carrel land it being six rods in width and contains half an acre of land.

In Witness where of I have set my hand and seal the 3 day of September 1788.

Witness: Job Curtis

Peter Gagnard and a Seal.

Urial Holms - Justice of Peace

Received for Record Sept. 27, 1788.

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 3, Pg. 508 Samuel Blakelee to Thomas Porter Signed 1 Jan. 1790

I, Samuel Blakelee, collector of the Society or Minsters Rate in 2nd Society in Hartland in the County of Litchfield in consideration of one pound, five shillings lawful money, sell to Thomas Porter of Hartland, he being the highest bidder, do sell to said Thomas Porter one certain peace of land lying and being in the East Tier of lots in the Third Division of land in said Hartland and is bounded as follows:

(viz) East on a Highway South on lands of Jonathan Allyn, West on Colonel Samuel Tallent, running North until it contains ten acres of land it being for a Society Rate and the cost that I have against Titus Allyn, Jun. Late of said Hartland I now sell the above disenibid ? peace of land for which said land was bid of at two shillings and six pence per acre.

I have hereunto set my hand and seal this first day of January 1790.

Witnesses: Theodore Ensign

Samuel Blakelee

Diodate Ensign

Eleazer Ensign. Justice of Peace. Recorded Jan. 1, 1790

Whereas the Law of the State gives Collectors of Rates, Liberty to sell land to Pay Rates after lawful advertisement Therefore - To all people to whom these Presents shall come Greetings: Know that I Aaron Bates, Collector for the State Tax for the Town of Hartland on the List A.D. 1787 in the County of Litchfield for the consideration of one pound thirteen shillings, lawful money, Received to my satisfaction of Thomas Porter of Hartland in the County of Litchfield he being the highest bidder to sell unto the said Thomas Porter one piece of land lying in the first Division of Land in Hartland and is Bounded as follows:

(viz) East on a Highway, South on land of the Said Thomas Porter, West on the Third Division running North until it contains sixteen acres and one half acre of land, it being for State Rates and the cost arising thereon that I have against Mical Carril, late of Hartland, deceased that I now sell the above described land for which said land was bid at two shillings per acre

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the first day of January Anno Domini 1790, Signed and sealed in the presents of

Diodate J. Ensign

Aaron Bates and a Seal.

Eleazer Ensign Justice of Peace

Deed Received for Record January 1, 1790

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 4, Page 9 Samuel Crosby to Thomas Porter Signed 9 Oct. 1790

I, Samuel Crosby of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut for consideration of thirty Pound of lawful money received to my full satisfaction of Thomas Porter of said Hartland. Do sell unto him one piece of land lying the the first Division of Land in said Hartland Bounded as follows:

(viz) West on a Highway, North on Samuel Blakeleees Land East on the River, South on the said Thomas Porter land and to contain five acres and one half acre of land.

In Witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the 9 day October 1790.

Witness:

Samuel Crosby and a Seal

Diodote J. Ensign

Eleazur Ensign, Justice of Peace.

Deed Received for Record July 25, 1791



Deed Received Sept. 18, 1930 from TOWN CLERK, East Hartland, Conn.  
06207

Vol 3, Page 515. Grantee Deed for Thomas Porter signed: 9 May 1791

Thomas Porter deed of Ebenezer Barnes, Jun and others. Received  
for Record July the 25th. A.D. 1791. I know

Know all men that we Ebenezer Barnes Jun. and Ruth his wife, Alexander Stewart in his own and in behalf of his late wife Abigail and William Barnes and his wife Rachel Barnes all of Granville in County of Hampshire and Common Wealth of the Massachusetts for and in consideration of the sum of thirty pounds lawful money to us in hand paid before the in sealing hereof by Thomas Porter of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut upon the receipt and where of we do hereby acknowledge and herewith fully satisfied contented and paid have given granted bargained sold conveyed and confirmed and forever Quit Claimed unto him the said Thomas Porter his Heirs and Assigns forever all the Right Estate that was given to each of us by the last will of our Honored Father William Porter AND also all our Rights to the real Estate of John Porter and as son to the said William Porter and also our Right to the Real Estate of Hannah Alling Alling daughter of the said William and we the said Ebenezer Ruth Alexander William and Rachel Do hereby forever thereafter barr ourselves and Heirs and Executors Administrators and Assigns any Ways molesting him the said Thomas his heirs his executors Administrators or assigns in the Peaceable and Quiet posession of the above dismissed premises in Witness Whereof we the said Ebenezer Ruth Alexander and William and Rachel do hereunto set our hand and seals this ninth day of May 1791.

Signed sealed and delivered in Presents of

Timo. Robinson  
Elisha Wells

Ebenezer Barnes jun. and a seal  
Ruth Barnes and a seal  
Alexander Stewart and a Seal  
William Barnes and a Seal  
Rachel Barnes and a Seal

Hampshier: SS June 29, 1791

Then Personally appeared Ebenezer Barnes, Jun and his wife Ruth Barnes and Alexander Stewart and William Barnes and wife Rachel Barnes and acknowledged the within instrument by them subscribed to be their free act and before -

Timo. Robinson Justice of Peace.

Copied from the Original Deed (zeroxed copy) by Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin, R. D. #2, Box 41, New London, Ohio 44851

Deed Received Sept. 18, 1980 from TOWN CLERK of East Hartland, Conn.  
06207

Volume 4, Page 36. GRANTEE DEED to Thomas Porter Signed 10 Aug 1791

Thomas Porter deed of Elishama Porter received to record Aug. 10, 1791

To all People to whom these presents shall come: Greetings.  
Know ye that I Elishama Porter of Hartland in the County of  
Litchfield and State of Connecticut for the consideration of  
other land deeded to me by my brother Thomas.

Received to my full satisfaction of my Brother Thomas Porter of  
said Hartland Do give, grant, bargain, sell and acquit unto the  
said Thomas Porter and to his heirs forever all the Right and Title  
that I have unto two peaces of land that I have or Ever had lying  
in the first Division of Land in said Hartland the one peace is  
land that I bot of the Town which was formerly a Highway the other  
peace is the sixth-part of the Land that was my Sister Hannah  
Allyn deed, and also I do hereby acquit to him five -sixth parts  
of my brother John Porters Lands in said Hartland.

(follows the legal wording of conveying the property to Thomas  
Porter and his heirs and assigns forever)

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the  
10th. Day of August Anno Domini 1791

Elishama Porter and a seal

Signed, sealed and delivered  
in presence of  
Theodore Ensign  
Eleaz<sup>n</sup> Ensign - Justice of Peace.

Litchfield County, September the 28, 1791

\* \* \* \* \*

Copied from a zeroxed copy of the deed on file in East Hartland,  
However I did not use the old fashioned spelling. Mrs. Kenneth  
E. Griffin, R. D. #2, Box 41, New London, Ohio 44851



Vol. 3, Pg. 50 Thomas Porter to John Bates Signed: 3 Oct. 1785

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and in the State of Connecticut in consideration of Thirty Pounds lawful money received to my full satisfaction of John Bates of Granville in the County of Hampshire and the Commonwealth of the Masschussets do sell unto the said John Bates one peace or parcel of Land lying in Hartland, in Litchfield County and is the first Division and is bounded as follows:

(viz) North on lands of Samuel Blakely, south on lands of Asael Branard, East on the Second Division running West taking the whole breadth of my land until it contains thirty acres of land without intruding the Highway as they are now.

Signed 3rd. day of October 1785

Witness:

Ephram Wileder

Thomas Porter and a seal

Timothy Coe

Eleazer Ensign, Justice of the Peace.

Received for Record May 6, 1786

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 3, Page 105 Thomas Porter to Peter Gagnard Signed 28 Dec. 1786

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland in the County of Litchfield, and State of Connecticut for the consideration of three pounds lawful money received from Peter Gagnard of Hartland one peace of Land lying in Hartland is bounded as follows; East on the Highway that Runs North and South. South on Elishama Porter land west and North on land belonging to Mical Carrel it being six rods in width and contains half an acre.

Signed 28 December 1786

Thomas Porter

Witness:

Natra Holms

Uriel Holms - Justice of Peace

Received for Record March 1, 1787

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 3, Pg. 167 Thomas Porter to Jonathan Miller, Jr Signed: May 10, 1787

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut in America, in Consideration of fifteen pounds lawful money received of my full satisfaction of Jonathan Miller, Jun. of Farmington in the County of Hartford and State aforesaid, do sell to said Miller one certain peice or parsell of land lying and being in Hartland aforesaid in the first Division of lots butted and Bounded as follows:

(viz) beginning at the northwest corner of my land at a stake and stone and from thence running East sixty rods to a maple Staddle? and stones, Bounding on Doctor Asa Smith land North then turning Southard and running to a Staddle? and Stones, and from thence to the South side of my land, bounding East on my own land and from thence Running West to my west line, Bounding on said Millers land to the first mentioned Bounds so as to contain ten acres of land being the same more or less it being a part of a lot of land I had of Nathan Hatch.

Witnessed: Lucy Andrews  
Nehemiah Andrews

Thomas Porter anda Seal

Signed at Litchfield County, Hartland May 10, 1787  
Nehemiah Andrews, Justice of the Peace.

Received for Record March 4, 1788

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 3, Page 187 Thomas Porter to Elishama Porter signed: Apr. 21, 1788

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut in consideration of seventeen pounds, lawful money received to my full satisfaction of Elishama Porter of Hartland. A certain peace of land in the first Division of Land in Hartland and is Bounded as follows

(viz) East on a Highway, South on Land of Asa Smith west and North on said Elishama Porters land and contains two acres of land and is thirteen rods in width.

Signed 21 day of April 1788

Witness: Candace Ensign

Thomas Porter and a Seal

Eleazer Ensign - Justice of Peace.

Received for Record May 1, 1788.

\* \* \* \* \*



## GRANTOR DEEDS FOR THOMAS PORTER

Vol. 4, Pg. 301 Thomas Porter to Rubin Morey Signed 5 Nov. 1788

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland in the county of Litchfield, State of Connecticut in consideration of Six Pounds of Lawful Money received to my full satisfaction of Rubin Morey of Hartland do sell to Rubin Morey and to his heirs a piece of land lying in the first Division of Land in said Hartland and is bounded as follows:

(viz) East on land of Capt. Asahel Branard, South and West on lands of Jonathan Miller, north on lands of Doctor Asa Smith and to contain ten acres of land.

Signed 5 November 1788

Witness: Thomas Porter and Seal

Timothy Ensign

Eleazer Ensign - Justice of Peace.

Received for Record March 18, 1794.

\* \* \* \* \*

Vol. 3, Pg. 371 Thomas Porter to Samuel Blakslee Signed Mar. 11, 1791

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland, in the County of Litchfield, State of Connecticut in consideration of One Pound eighteen Shillings Lawful money received to my full satisfaction of Samuel Blakelee of said Hartland do sell to said Samuel Blakslee a certain parcel of land lying in the first Division of Land in said Hartland and is bounded as follows

(viz) Beginning at a heap of stones at North East corner southerly to a chestnut bush, south of the brook with a heap stones at it then running Westerly to a bound in the brook at the Northwest Corner then running Easterly to the first mentioned bounds - Bounds East upon my own land South on the Broock North on said Blakslee Land to have and to hold the same be it more or less.

Signed 11 March 1791

Witness: Jason Perkins Thomas Porter and a Seal  
Eleazer Ensign - Justice of Peace.

Received for Record March 11, 1791

\* \* \* \* \*

## GRANTOR DEEDS FROM THOMAS PORTER

Vol. 4, Pg. 51 Thomas Porter to Docter Asa Smith Signed: 6 Aug. 1791

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland, County of Litchfield, State of Connecticut in consideration of Seventeen Pound ten shillings Lawful Money received to my full satisfaction of Docter Asa Smith of Hartland in the County and State aforesd. Do sell unto Docter Asa Smith and to his Heirs one Piece of land lying in the first Division of Land in Hartland and is Bounded as follows:

(viz) North on Samuel Blakslees land, East on land that I have this day sold to Reuben Mory, south on a highway - West taking the whole width of my lot untill it contains fourteen acres of land and then bounds on my own land.

Signed 6 Aug. 1791 Thomas Porter and a Seal  
Witness: Theodore Ensign  
Eleazur Ensign - Justice of the Peace

Received for Record the 28th. December 1791

Vol. 4, Pg. 300 Thomas Porter to Reubin Morey Signed: Aug. 6, 1791

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut in consideration of four pounds of lawful money, received to my satisfaction of Reubin Morey one piece of land lying in the first Division of Land in Hartland and is bounded as follows

(viz) East on Peter Gangards land and south on a Highway North on Samuel Blakleys, Land running west so far as to contain two acres of land.

Signed: 6 day August 1791 Thomas Porter and a Seal  
Witness: Theodore Ensign  
Eleazur Ensign- Justice of Peace

Received for Record Mar. 18, 1794



## GRANTOR DEED FROM THOMAS PORTER

Vol. 4, Page 45 Thomas Porter to George Frederick Miller of Hartland and Cyrus Miller of Farmington in the County of Hartford. Signed: 5 Dec. 1791

I, Thomas Porter of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut in consideration of One hundred and sixty pounds lawful money received to my full satisfaction of George Frederick Miller of Hartland in the County of Litchfield and Cyrus Miller of Farmington in the County of Hartford and State of Connecticut. Do sell unto the said George Frederick and Cyrus Miller two peaces of land lying in the First Division of Land in said Hartland and are bounded as follows:

(viz) the one peace is bounded west on the River and to contain twenty-five acres, on the South and East on Asa Smiths land, North on Samuel Blakslee Land. The other peace is bounded North on Samuel Blakslee Land, West on the Third Division of Land in Hartland, South on Jonathan Allyn and George Frederick Millers Land and East on the River exclusive of a North and South Highway across said lot and is to contain forty acres of land and also my dwelling house standing on the premisses.

Signed: 5 Dec. 1791

Witnesses: Jonathan A. Miller Thomas Porter (Seal)  
Eleazer Ensign, J.P.

Received for Record Dec. 10, 1791.

This is the final deed of Thomas Porter.

\* \* \* \* \*

Additional material on the descendants of Thomas and Phebe Porter may be found in THE ANCESTORS OF DANIEL WHITE 1777-1836 AND HIS WIFE SARAH FORD 1778-1847 AND THEIR DESCENDANTS. Compiled by Mrs. Paula Porter Griffin and Thomas Stephen Neel. 1979. Pages 243-250 and 388-389 plus descendants.

Copy of book available at following Libraries:  
Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford, Ct.  
Connecticut State Library, Hartford, Ct.  
Cornell University Library, Ithaca, New York  
Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah  
The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
Lyme Historic Church Museum, Bellevue, Ohio  
The Mayflower Society Library  
New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Mass..  
The New York Public Library, New York, New York  
New London Public Library, New London, Ohio  
Norwalk Public Library, Norwalk, Ohio  
Onondaga County Public Library, Syracuse, New York  
Ohio Genealogical Society, Mansfield, Ohio  
Public Library of Fort Wayne & Allen Co., Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin

Mr. Robert E. Porter, 1920 W. Calle Mecedora, Tucson, Ariz. 85705  
Mrs. Kenneth E. Griffin, R.D. #2, Box 41, New London, Ohio 444851  
both have almost a complete list of all descendants of Philo Thomas Porter, son of Thomas and Phebe (Leavit) Porter. WRITE THEM

The Hanover Fire



Insurance Co.  
New York

J. H. ARNOLD, Agent

19 EAST MAIN STREET  
NEW LONDON, OHIO

December 30, 1940

FIRE—TORNADO  
AUTOMOBILE  
RIOT & CIVIL COMMOTION  
USE & OCCUPANCY  
SPRINKLER LEAKAGE  
EXPLOSION  
RENTS  
HAIL  
MARINE  
INLAND AND CARGO  
TOURIST BAGGAGE  
TRANSPORTATION  
PARCEL POST  
ALL RISKS  
FINE ARTS

Mrs. Maude Keuzenkamp,  
501 East Tenth St.  
Greenville, N.C.

Dear Cousin Maude;

Thinking that perhaps you had rather have a prompt though brief response to your somewhat delayed letter, than a more extended communication at some uncertain future date, I am going to take amoment right now to reply to your letter which was received this morning.

Truth of the matter is, the first of the year is a rather busy time for me. However, I was pleased to hear from you and to learn something about your moves and doings. And I shall hope to hear from you again before another eighteen years rolls around.

But to come to the point of your letter, I will have to say that I cannot be of much help to you unless you are able to give me the ancestry of Jefferson Davis. \* If you can uncover the names of his parents, grandparents, great grandparents, etc. together with places and dates of births, marriages and deaths, I will see what I can find.

While I have not been able to follow the direct Porter line back as far as some others, yet I am of the opinion that if the relationship you mention exists, it is likely through some maternal line. I have never heard this mentioned before, though I have been told that our great great grandmother Porter had a Mayflower ancestry, which I have not yet been able to confirm.

Will hope to hear from you further.

Sincerely,

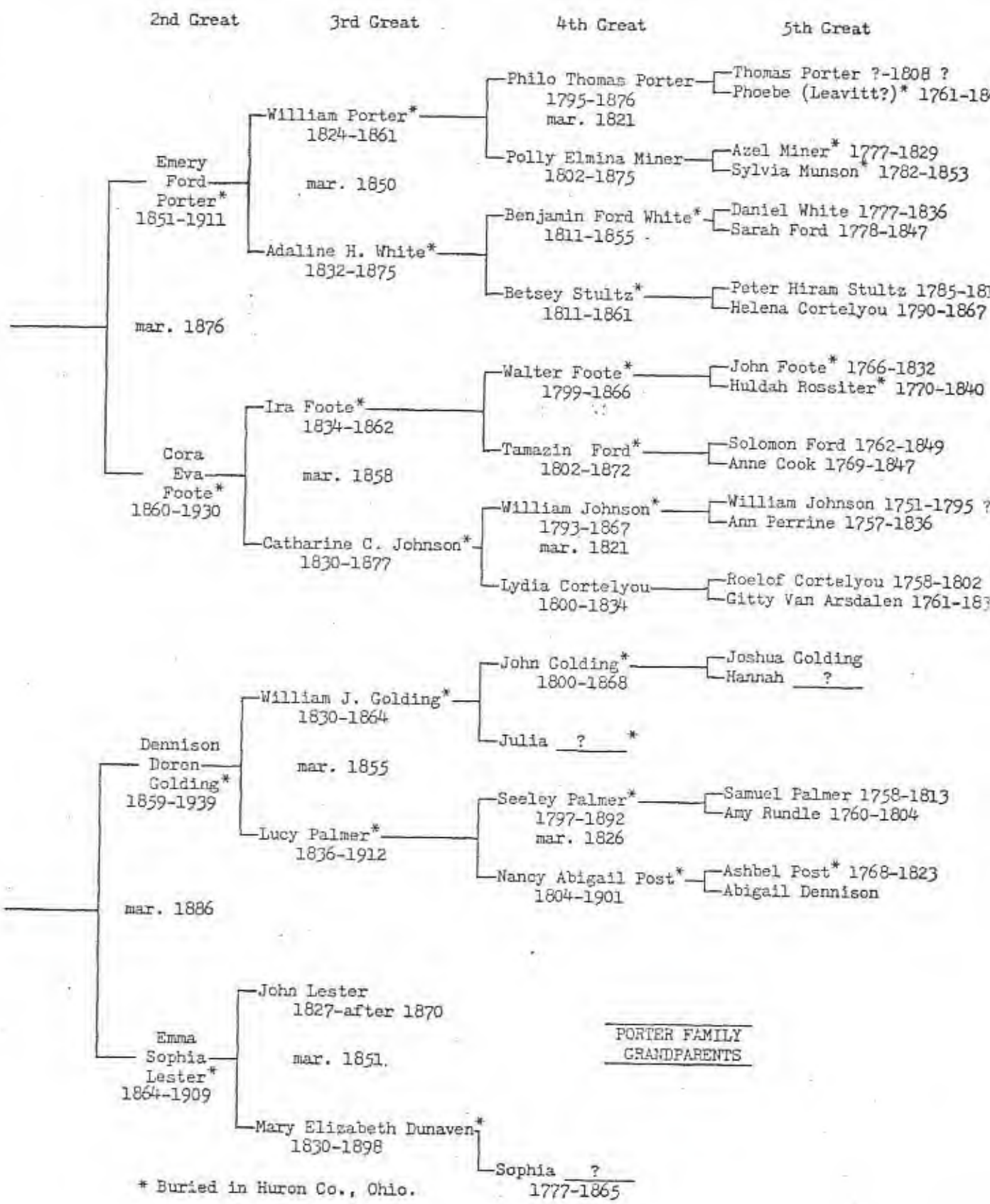
*Since would be Blanche Robert who was Porter.*

*Suggested to be a close relative of the Worland Family said Childs Belmont about 1863-4.*











Descendants of Emery Ford Porter and wife Cora Eva Foote  
(Their Ancestors found on page 3)

